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AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

AMANDA E. BEAL
COMMISSIONER

PUBLIC NOTICE

November 13, 2023

This is to inform all interested parties that the Town of Appleton has requested that the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry review the municipal comprehensive plan for consistency with Maine's Growth Management Act (M.R.S.A.30-A, Section 4301). As part of its review, the Department invites members of the public to submit written comments.

The Appleton Comprehensive Plan may be viewed at:

maine.gov/dacf/municipalplanning/comp_plans/

Or view a copy at the Town Office

Written comments will be accepted by the Department through **December 20, 2023.**

Please submit comments to:

Tom Miragliuolo, Senior Planner
tom.miragliuolo@maine.gov

- OR -

Municipal Planning Assistance Program
Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry
22 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0022



18 ELKINS LANE, HARLOW BUILDING
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

MUNICIPAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM 22 STATE HOUSE STATION

Update on the Appleton Comprehensive Plan

Nov. 20, 2023

The recently completed draft of the Appleton Comprehensive Plan has been submitted to the State for its review to see if the Plan meets the State requirements for State approval. A printed copy of the draft Plan is available for review at the Appleton Town office and can also be accessed through the Town web site that has a link to the plan at the State web site. The State will be reviewing the draft Plan for the next several months, and public comments about the draft plan can be sent to the State through its web site through mid December.

Presentation of the draft Plan to the town for review and comment:

After the State review is completed, in the early spring the Comprehensive Plan Committee will hold a Town Public Hearing , describing the draft Plan and for questions and comments. The public hearing process will also provide a time period for written comments.

Following completion of the Town public hearing/comment process, the draft Plan will be brought to a Town meeting for consideration of approval.

Questions about the draft Plan and the current process can be directed to:

Co-Chairs: Sid Quarrier or Diane Schivera

Sid: 785 6435, Diane: 785 5310

Town of Appleton
2024 Comprehensive Plan
DRAFT

Prepared by the Appleton Comprehensive Plan Committee

Approved by the Residents of Appleton on _____, 2024

INTRODUCTION

The Town of Appleton established the Comprehensive Plan Committee in March 2019 to update the 2007 Comprehensive Plan for the Town. Over the course of three years, the Committee has met monthly to discuss the proposed plan by the Midcoast Council of Governments, who served as consultants during this process.

While there was no deadline, the volunteer Committee recognized the importance of this document, as the Comprehensive Plan would help Appleton have access to grants offered by the State of Maine, and to provide guidance for future updates to their local ordinances.

This Comprehensive Plan will join previous efforts by the Town of Appleton to comply with the State of Maine Growth Management Program (30-A MRSA, Section 4312).

HISTORY OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

Appleton's first Comprehensive Plan was approved in 1973. The 1973 plan was then replaced with an updated version in 1984, which can still be found on the Town of Appleton website.

In 1998, the State of Maine passed the State's Growth Management Statute, which required municipalities to address issues such as growth areas, affordable housing, and capital investments. After this legislation was passed, Appleton approved a new Comprehensive Plan in 2007 but did not submit it to the State for approval.

VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION

The 2023 Comprehensive Plan was an effort that involved members of the public, municipal officials and staff, cooperation from the multiple committees and boards. The Committee wants to thank the following individuals for their cooperation and feedback throughout this process:

Donovan Bowley	Edward Carroll	Lorie Costigan	Charles Garrigan
Donald Mansius	Gary Roberts	Sue Ellen Roberts	Susan Sherman
Andy Staples	Wendy Thatcher-Hall	Heather Wyman	

The following individuals that have met regularly for the past two years and are serving as the current members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee when it was submitted:

Sid Quarrier, Co-Chair	Diane Schiver, Co-Chair	Peter Beckett
Fred Bucklin	Scott Esancy	

IMPLEMENTATION*

At the end of each Section of the Appleton Comprehensive Plan, there are outlined Goals, Policies, and Strategies that shall provide guidance for the Town over the next fifteen (15) years. The Strategies for each Section include the responsible parties that will be involved in the implementation for each item along with a timeline that is broken down into the following categories:

- *Ongoing* – The strategy is something the Town is actively working on, and is encouraged to continue doing as part of the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.
- *Immediate* – A strategy that is on the verge of completion and the Town is able to start and/or complete within five (5) years of adopting the Comprehensive Plan.
- *Long-Term* – These strategies require a significant lead-time that may involve prior actions to be completed. These strategies are anticipated to take more than five (5) years to complete.

The Strategies are written out in each Section as demonstrated below that starts with the Strategy item, contains the responsible entity in parenthesis at the end of the Strategy, and has the timeline italicized:

Ex. The Town of Appleton shall approve the Comprehensive Plan (Select Board, Comprehensive Plan Committee, Town Meeting) - *Immediate*

In addition to the Strategies found in each Section, the Appleton Select Board shall annually review the Strategies in the Comprehensive Plan. Part of the review shall include an assessment of how much capital investments and private developments have taken place in a designated growth area (refer to Appendix A, Map D-1), and how many critical natural resources have been placed under conservation easements.*

SUMMARY OF APPLETON'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The following are summaries from each Section of the Comprehensive Plan. Individuals that are interested in learning more about how these summaries were created are encouraged to read the corresponding Sections in their entirety.

Recreational Resources

The natural resources of Appleton provide numerous recreational opportunities for residents as well as visitors to the area. The residents of Appleton emphatically want to retain the rural and natural setting of the community. There are concerns that the natural resources may be mismanaged, threatened by sprawl and other factors, and that more action should be taken to preserve these treasures for the future. In recent years, Appleton has examined new areas to become publicly accessible for residents within the municipality, such as Getchell Family Park, which was purchased in 2021 to provide public freshwater access. Surrounding communities also provide numerous natural, public, and private recreational resources and events.

Economy

The top sectors of employment for Appleton residents (who work in Appleton or elsewhere in Maine) in order, in 2023, were “Educational services, health care and assistance,” “Retail trade,” “Manufacturing” and “Construction.” Living in a rural area limits employment opportunities and increases the costs of commuting to the service centers where most jobs are located. Residents, who responded to the public opinion survey taken in 2020, support the following types of business development in Appleton: farming, restaurants, bed & breakfasts, small retail, craft industries and farm product processing (these include percentages for which over 50% of respondents would like to move to Appleton or expand if they already exist).

Agriculture and Forestry

The public perception and history of Appleton shows a strong desire to preserve agriculture and forestry industries that are still present in the current makeup of the community. However, the soil composition and growing trends also make Appleton a site that could be considered for housing and commercial-scale solar developments if there are high enough investments made to upgrade the utilities in the area. The State offers incentives and tax programs for residents to preserve Tree Growth and Farmlands in Appleton, and local land trusts have also been active in preserving these areas as well.

Natural and Water Resources

Almost 67% of Appleton is forested, 18% is wetlands/open water and almost 14% is grassland/cultivated. Cedar Swamp (about 1,000 acres) and Pettengill Swamp (about 750 acres) function in part as headwaters of and provide flood and water quality protection for the St. George River and Medomak River, respectively. Cedar Swamp has the northernmost occurrence of an Atlantic White Cedar swamp. The Town currently offers protection of its natural resources with locally adopted shoreland zoning, floodplain management, site plan review, subdivision, and mining ordinances. These ordinances will be updated as needed to be consistent with the requirements of state and federal regulations.

Land Use

This Comprehensive Plan lays out a framework by which Appleton, over the next decade, can address land use concerns to residents. Some well thought out Land Use Ordinance decisions may ultimately result, but they will each be subject to a vote at a future Town Meeting. Because this document is a plan, it will require revision to recognize new data, to respond to new trends, and to react to new realities. It is, therefore, only a starting point. If current development trends continue without appropriate land use regulations, Appleton could lose the character, natural resources, and rich heritage of our community. It should be remembered that this plan is not an ordinance, but a guide for Appleton's future. As such, it contains many recommendations. Any ordinance arising from the recommendations contained herein would require approval by a majority of the voters at a town meeting. Successful implementation of the policies recommended in this plan will require the cooperation and increased participation of townspeople in their local government. Both existing and new committees will require participation by a broad segment of Appleton's population.

Regional Coordination

Comprehensive planning recognizes the importance of regional cooperation for land use, the economy and the environment. The land uses in one community can impact another community, particularly when that land use is located near the boundaries of the town. As indicated in the Natural Resources Chapter of the plan, the Town should attempt to develop compatible resource protection standards with nearby communities. Most Appleton residents depend on the region for employment and for consumer needs. Cost savings for public services are accomplished through regional cooperation. Currently the Town realizes savings in the education of its students, in police and fire protection, ambulance service, animal control and waste management. Seeking improvements in these arrangements and other services should continue.

Maps

The maps included in Appendix A of this plan show Appleton's roadways, topography, public facilities, soils, critical habitat, water resources, land cover, existing land use, Shoreland Zoning, historic places, and proposed land use. The information used to create these maps has been derived from multiple sources. The maps as provided are for reference and planning purposes only and are not to be construed as legal documents or survey instruments.

Survey Results

Appleton residents were surveyed in 2020 by the Appleton Comprehensive Plan Committee. 182 responses were received from both online and paper sources. Residents were given three (3) months to respond to the survey questions. The respondents emphasized the importance of preserving Appleton's rural environment and addressing maintenance of public infrastructure and services.

Section 1 History

Historical Background of Appleton

According to archeologists, the St. George River has been inhabited by Native Americans for thousands of years. Artifacts attest to Native American seasonal use and possible settlement of the St. George River corridor at archeological sites studied in Warren, Union, and Searsmont. Some sites date back as far as 9,000 years. Today, these early residents are not entirely gone. In Maine, there are a significant number of residents with Native American ancestry.

Native American culture is carried forward in several different ways. In our local area, and throughout the State of Maine, Native American names are the origin for communities and land features. Examples include Monhegan ('out to sea land') and Muscongus ('The fishing place'). Today, Native American inspired seasonal harvesting and foraging is practiced for alewives, eels, and more. Each year in late March, here in Appleton, the Native American (and then the Maine) canoe is 'honored' at the annual St. George River canoe race.

The present-day Town of Appleton is a small part of the area granted under the Muscongus Patentⁱ on March 2, 1630. The name refers to one corner boundary, a point on the Muscongus Riverⁱⁱ (now called the Medomak). It was a large grant of well-defined coast and nebulous inland boundaries that encompassed an area estimated at between 700,000 and 1,000,000 acres. The grant had various owners-in-common down through the years, such as the first grantees, Thomas Leverett and John Beauchamp, the Ten Proprietors and their Twenty Associates (referred to collectively as the Thirty Proprietors)ⁱⁱⁱ, their heirs or assignees, General Samuel Waldo (son of one of the original Twenty Associates and nephew of another), and later General Henry Knox. After General Waldo's death, the unsold portions of the grant owned in common were divided among individual ownerships. General Waldo's Heirs obtained the largest portion (300,000 acres, in undivided ownership with the Thirty Associates)^{iv} and became known as the Waldo Patent; it was most of the part later collected by General Knox. The Twenty Associates acquired a smaller portion of about 200,000 acres.^v

In return for release from the requirement to help settle undefined areas of the original parcel they ceded 100,000 acres to the Waldo heirs. That secured their clear title^{vi} to their remaining 100,000 acres, including land that is now Appleton as well as Camden, Hope, Liberty, and Montville, and eventually included the mineral rights to the valuable limestone there, under action by the Massachusetts General Court. The original ten associates ended up with 100,000 acres to the north of the rest, which was eventually reduced to about 46,000 acres by action of the Massachusetts legislature. On July 4, 1785, the General Court responded to a request from General Knox to define hard boundaries for the land side of the original nebulous grant, and they pruned off the vaguely defined areas to the west and north, as well as east of Penobscot Bay, leaving 600,000 acres for the whole grant.^{vii}

Recreation facilities were also developed. It was not uncommon for over 100 deer to be killed in Appleton per year. Stocking of fish and game birds has improved fishing and bird hunting.

Cottages have been constructed at Sennebec Pond, and the Appleton Campground has operated since 1970. Snowmobile trails have been developed throughout the town for winter sportsmen. While poultry and cattle-raising have decreased for a variety of reasons, Appleton has still maintained a diversified industry that includes cows, goats, and even water buffaloes. Appleton is also home to unique agricultural attractions such as the largest blueberry operation in Knox County, the largest lavender farm in the State of Maine, and several small-scale farms offering locally grown products. Unfortunately, agriculture, in general, has declined as more residents travel out of town to earn a living; however, the town's agricultural and natural features have led to an increase in established rustic camp experiences along the Pettengill with another being developed in North Appleton along the St. George River.

Historic Places

The Maine Historic Preservation Commission maintains an inventory of important sites including buildings or sites on the National Registry of Historic Places (NRHP). They record four such listings for the town: Gushee Family House, 2868 Sennebec Rd.; Whitney Farm, 215 Whitney Road; the St. George River Canal Locks; and the Meeting House, 2875 Sennebec Road. MHPC recommends conducting a comprehensive survey of Appleton's above-ground historic resources to identify other properties that may be eligible for nomination in the National Register of Historic Places. Other locations, such as the Fergus and Archibald McLain houses in Appleton Village, the house at Terra Optima Farm near the Mill Pond, and the Pitman Farm on Appleton Ridge appear eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

As with other Maine areas located near the coast, Appleton's population rapidly increased soon after the Revolutionary War. Remnants of that early period may be seen in old stone walls, cellar holes, mill foundations, ruins of dams, and in a few more substantial structures such as houses and barns. In keeping with the goal of maintaining the town's rural character, preservation of this cultural heritage should be strongly encouraged. This section lists some of the more prominent or significant landmarks not already mentioned above.

Appleton Mining & Smelting Co.: Located on the east side of the Gurneytown Road, the copper-mine site is overgrown and barely visible from the road but exists as a reminder of economic activity in the past. It is in no danger now but could be destroyed if the land were developed.

Sherman's Saw & Stave Mill: Run for many years by waterpower from the Mill Pond, formed by a dam across Allen Brook, this historic mill has been removed. Some of the original components were gifted to the Town, which will be turned into a monument in the future.

John Hall's Lime Kiln: Operated from 1872 to 1903 off the Peabody Road, this site is well-preserved on private land.

Town House: Located on Town Hill Road, this structure, with its sloping upper floor, was built in 1846 after McLain's Mills was annexed from Hope. It is now a privately-owned barn, and its future depends upon the owner's discretion.

Oakes Mansion: Built in 1900, the Oakes Mansion is privately owned, in fair condition and located on the south side of Appleton Ridge Road near Oakes Corner. The very old Lincoln Family Cemetery, with its fieldstone markers, is on this property.

Odd Fellows Hall: Built in 1893, this building on Seasmont Road near the center of the village was renovated into two apartments and has been significantly changed.

First Town Hall: Built in 1808, this may be the barn now standing on the Pitman's land on Appleton Ridge Road, or it may have been the one to the rear that was demolished.

Medomak Valley Grange: Built in 1875, this structure located on Burkettville Road is in disrepair.

The Former Burkettville Store: Built sometime before 1859, the former Burkettville Store (also the Burkettville Post Office) stood in the center of this small community on what is now Burkettville Road. It closed in 1984 and has since been torn down.

Gushee's Corner Veterans' Memorial Tablet and Flagpole: This tiny park, located at the intersection of Sennebec Road, Sleepy Hollow Road and Peabody Road (called Gushee's Corner), was dedicated in 1929 during the Centennial celebration. Neighbors on behalf of the town maintain the site. The greatest threats to its well-being are vandalism and possible highway widening.

Burkettville Memorial Stone: Located at the intersection of Burkettville Road and Collinstown Road and erected in 1966-67, this tablet was put out by the Appleton Improvement Committee and Medomak Valley Grange. It is in excellent condition and well cared for. Behind it stood the Burkettville School (K-8) until 1963, at which time all students were transferred to the new Village School.

Archaeological Sites

There is one known historical archaeological site within Appleton, as recorded by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC):

D. Gilman Farmstead (Site number ME 014-001)

Rehabilitation Grants

The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program rewards private investment to rehabilitate certified historic structures (a building listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places or a building located in a registered historic district and certified by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historic significance of the district). The building must currently be used or will be used for commercial, industrial, agricultural, or rental residential purposes, but not used exclusively as the owner's private residence. Under PL 99-514 Internal Revenue Code Section 47, tax incentives include:

A 20% tax credit for the certified rehabilitation of certified historic structures.

A 10% tax credit for the rehabilitation of non-historic, non-residential buildings built before 1936.

A Maine State taxpayer is allowed a credit equal to the amount of the Federal credit claimed by the taxpayer under section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code for rehabilitation of certified historic structures located in Maine. The credit is nonrefundable and is limited to \$100,000 annually per taxpayer.

Cemeteries

Cemeteries are a cultural resource providing insight into the history of the community. An inventory of Appleton's larger cemeteries is listed below and shown on the Public Facilities Map. *See the Public Facilities Section for a summary of cemetery capacity.*

Weymouth Cemetery (West Appleton Rd)

Miller Cemetery (Miller Cemetery Rd)

Sprague Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Rd)

Metcalf Cemetery (Guinea Ridge Rd)

Quaker Cemetery (Sennebec Rd)

Hart Cemetery (Appleton Ridge Rd)

Clark Cemetery – private (Burkettville Rd)

Esancy Cemetery – private (Fishtown Rd)

Pine Grove Cemetery (Pine Grove Lane off Sennebec Rd)

Lincoln Family Cemetery – private (Appleton Ridge Rd in the vicinity of the Oakes Mansion)

3. Developers should provide evidence that their proposals will not negatively impact known (or possible) archaeological sites. (Planning Board) - *Ongoing**
4. The Town should encourage landowners in preserving the remnants of the St. Georges River Canal, one of relatively few navigation canals in Maine. (Appleton Historical Society) - *Long Term*
5. Amend the building ordinance to include preservation of historic and archaeological (prehistoric and historic) resources as part of the subdivision application process as well as incorporating any maps and information provided by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission into the review process. (Planning Board, Town Meeting) – *Long-Term**
6. Inventory the historically significant structures and areas in the Appleton Village area and make recommendations for possible initiatives for conservation and restoration. (Appleton Historical Society) – *Ongoing**

ⁱ Also called the Lincolnshire Grant, after the original home of one of the Grantees, in Boston, Lincolnshire, England – the origin of the name of Lincoln County.

ⁱⁱ Muscongus is the Indian name for the bay and the saltwater part of the river. Medomac is the Indian name for the freshwater part of the river.

ⁱⁱⁱ York Deeds, X, folios 242-244.

^{iv} This had been given in gratitude as reward to the General in return for his negotiations in England which had preserved the integrity of the original grant in the face of contrary later claims by Dunbar and others.

^v See Eaton, *History of Thomaston, Rockland, and South Thomaston*, p. 41.

^{vi} Lincoln Deeds, V 6, folios 122-125.

^{vii} See Maine State Library: 974.1cW16r1785 in Safe Box 38.

^{viii} J. Asbury Pitman, in his “Historical Address: One Hundredth Anniversary of the Town of Appleton, State of Maine, 1829-1929,” often called the *Centennial History of Appleton*. Both Fergus and Archibald later settled in the St Georges River Valley.

^{ix} They appear to have followed the Indian trails which later became Western and Middle roads through Warren and Union, joining together in the trail which became Sennebec/Peabody/Magog Roads leading through Appleton and Searsmont to meet the Passagassawaukeag (Belfast) to Cushnoc (Augusta) trail above Quantabacook Pond in Searsmont.

^x See Anna Hardy, *History of Hope, Maine*, page 89: Petition of 17 February 1842.

^{xi} This was about one third the area of Hope and about one half of its tax valuation at that time, according to Anna Hardy in the *History of Hope*.

^{xii} Appleton began in Lincoln County (1760), was next included in Hancock County (1789), then in Waldo County (1827), finally being incorporated in Knox County in 1860.

Section 2: Population

Introduction

This section identifies and analyzes the characteristics, interrelationships, and trends of Appleton's population. This information provides important background for other Inventory and Analysis sections, as well as for the development of comprehensive planning policies and implementation strategies.

In the previous Comprehensive Plan, the community had grown from 672 residents in 1960 to an estimated 1,306 persons in 2002, an average annual growth rate of 2.25% over a forty (40) year period. During the most recent forty (40) year period of 1980-2020, Appleton's residents grew from 818 to 1,411, an average annual growth rate of 1.8%.

Table 2-1: Appleton Historical Populationⁱ

Year	Population	Year	Population	Year	Population
1790	173	1870	1,485	1950	671
1800	114	1880	1,348	1960	672
1810	316	1890	1,080	1970	628
1820	511	1900	975	1980	818
1830	735	1910	842	1990	1,069
1840	891	1920	683	2000	1,271
1850	1,727	1930	574	2010	1,316
1860	1,573	1940	641	2020	1,411

Source: Maine State Economist and US Census

Population Comparisons

Analysis of birth and death statistics and census population totals may indicate whether a town's population is changing because of natural change or because of migration. Over the 2010-2020 period, Appleton saw a total population increase of 7.22% (95 residents). In comparison, Knox County's population grew by 2.2% (807) while the State of Maine increased by 2.6% (33,998)ⁱⁱ Table 3-2 shows the year-round population and growth rate by decade in Appleton, Knox County, and Maine since 1930.

Age Distribution

The following statistics are comparative by age group for Appleton, Knox County, and the State of Maine. Appleton has a greater proportion of young people (those under 19 years old) than Knox County and the State. 28% of Appleton's residents are 19 years of age or younger, whereas Knox County is 19% and the State is 21%. The median age of Appleton's residents is lower by 8.3 years than the Knox County resident median age, and 4.6 years lower than the State resident median age. Appleton's age distribution results from the influx of young families with children, as housing costs, discussed in the Housing Section, are lower here than in nearby coastal communities and service centers.

Table 2-3: Age Group Distribution in 2020

Age Group	Appleton	Knox County	Maine
	Number	Number	Number
Under 5 years	92	1,758	64,035
5 to 9 years	147	1,951	69,457
10 to 14 years	95	2,157	72,774
15 to 19 years	117	1,959	79,136
20 to 24 years	60	1,920	75,973
25 to 34 years	185	4,045	158,195
35 to 44 years	192	4,469	152,485
45 to 54 years	231	5,229	185,468
55 to 59 years	142	3,030	107,204
60 to 64 years	93	3,594	103,197
65 to 74 years	153	5,673	158,281
75 to 84 years	53	2,739	75,244
85 years and up	43	1,235	34,043
Median age	40.1	48.4	44.7

Source: Maine State Economist

In proportion to Appleton's total population, a slight increase in most of the groupings of the young and middle-aged adult population, and a larger increase in the older population has been evidenced since 2010. See Table 2-4 for these figures. During the same period, the adults between the ages of 25-54 slightly decreased. The median age of residents increased from 2.6 years to 40.1 years old.

Summary

The population of Appleton has grown considerably over the past thirty (30) years. Families continue to be attracted to the Town given the more affordable housing and land options compared to neighboring communities. Appleton also receives interest because of employment options in service centers, despite the community itself not having a major employer. * The median age of Appleton's population is younger compared to Knox County and State levels, but it is increasing. The total number of school age children has remained relatively stable. As with Knox County and the State, Appleton has seen a decrease in the average household size. More retirees, single persons, and single-parent households are locating to Appleton.

Issues of Concern

1. An increasing population combined with a declining number of persons per household could increase housing demand as well as place additional burdens on municipal facilities and services.
2. Local school department figures indicate little or no increase in the number of school age children over the next ten (10) years. This number could increase significantly if past population growth patterns continue, and we see an increase in the number of younger families who can no longer afford coastal property.
3. If coastal property prices remain unaffordable for many residents, populations in the inland communities will continue to grow at a faster pace than will coastal communities.
4. Maine has seen a recent surge in out-of-state homebuyers purchasing properties with broadband accessibility. As part of the recent rounds of federal funding, Appleton has had most of the community laid with high-speed fiber, which will make the area an ideal location for remote work and learning.
5. Lower local income levels and increased growth will continue to create an affordable housing problem.

Policy

To inform residents and municipal officials of demographic trends to better plan the provisions of public services.

Strategies (as described on page 5)

1. The Town should gather all available population estimates, census data, and other information concerning the number and characteristics of the Town's population. These will be maintained in appropriate files that shall be available in the Town Office and online on the Town's website for use by the municipal officials and by residents. (Town Office) – *Ongoing*
2. The Town should continue to adapt and revise its municipal services to respond to changes in the population. Areas of particular concern include, but are not limited to, emergency services, housing, recreational opportunities, economic development and planning, and education. (Town Office) – *Ongoing*

ⁱ Census.gov (2020)

ⁱⁱ Courier Gazette "Census shows slight population increase in Knox County". August 12, 2021.

ⁱⁱⁱ State of Maine Economist Demographic Projections

Section 3: Housing

Introduction

Housing is one of the most important considerations for Appleton and its residents. The future availability of affordable, quality homes is of significant concern to all of us. Appleton's housing stock is in large part the basis for the Town's tax base. Housing represents the major investment of most individuals. With rising property values and assessments, affordable housing has become a concern for many residents. The goal of this Section is to document housing conditions and encourage affordable, decent housing opportunities for all Appleton residents.

Housing Units and Projections

Table 3-1: Total Housing Units

Place	2000	2010	2020
Appleton	547	646	674
Knox County	21,612	23,889	24,255
State of Maine	651,901	714,270	739,072

Source: 2000, 2010, and 2020 data from Maine State Economist

During the 2010-2020 period, the Town recorded a 1.18% increase in its housing stock (28 new homes), compared to 1.53% for Knox County (366 new homes) and 3.47% for the State (24,802 new homes). Compared to the development in the 2000s, Appleton had an 18.1% increase (99 new homes), Knox County had an increase of 10.54% (2,277 new homes), and the State saw a 9.57% increase (62,369 new homes).

For Appleton, the difference in development was a result of 70% less houses being built from 2010-2020 compared to 2000-2010. If Appleton continues either the 2000-2020 (70% fewer houses compared to the number built in 2010-2020) or 2010-2020 (a 1.18% increase) linear trend, the Town is projected to see an increase of at least 8 new homes. Compared to the estimated population projection from Section 1 (Population), Appleton is projected to need enough housing for an additional 310 residents by 2038, or at least 105 units.*

The data for the number of homes and residents in 2020 does not consider the recent influx of out-of-state home purchases. Table 3-4 demonstrates that Appleton has already exceeded their projections with at least 16 new homes being built in 2021 alone.

Table 3-3: Year Structure Built

Housing Types	Appleton		Knox County	
	2020		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%
2014 or later	3	0.5	229	1.3
2010 through 2013	25	3.8	288	1.6
2000 through 2009	187	28.6	2,541	14.5
1980 through 1999	147	22.5	4,235	24.2
1960 through 1979	91	13.9	2,897	16.6
1940 through 1959	32	4.9	1,384	7.9
1939 and earlier	168	25.7	5,923	33.8
Total housing units	653	100	17,497	100

Source: 2020 American Community Survey

Building Permits Issued

The permit numbers listed below were all for single-family dwellings and/or mobile homes. There were no multi-family dwellings (3 or more dwelling units in a single structure) built in Appleton during this period.

Table 3-4: Total Appleton Housing Building Permits for New Homes

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Homes	7	8	10	1	13	9	8	10	1	16	4

Source: Appleton Town Reports, 2012-2022

Table 3-5: Occupied and Vacant House Breakdown

Housing Units	Appleton				Knox County			
	2010		2020		2010		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total	646	100	674	100	23,744	100	24,255	100
Occupied	545	84.3	597	86.0	17,258	72.7	17,883	71.5
Vacant	101	15.6	77	14.0	6,486	27.3	6,372	28.5

Source: 2010 US Census and 2020 Maine State Economist

Affordability Index

Recent figures on housing affordability are available from the Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA). Tables 3-7 and 3-8 show the estimated median income and the median home price over a 10-year period from the Maine Housing Authority. For the context of these Tables, an “Index” of over 1.0 is considered “affordable” while a number under 1.0 is considered “unaffordable”. The index is calculated by having the Affordable Home Price for an individual with a Median Income divided by the Median Home Price in the community.

In 2012, Appleton was considered “Affordable” by the Maine Housing Authority’s standards by having median annual incomes exceed the required amount necessary to afford a median home price in Appleton. This made Appleton one of five communities, along with Washington, Warren, Union, and Hope that were considered affordable in Knox County in 2012; however, Appleton has had one of the largest drops in ratings in the region due to the Median Home Prices in Appleton rising by \$263,000 (198.49%) while the Median Income rose by \$17,474 (37.18%) over the past ten years. *

Table 3-7:

2012 Housing Affordability

Place	Annual Income Needed	Median Income	Median Home Price	Affordable Home for Median Income	Index
State of Maine	\$47,305	\$45,530	\$165,000	\$158,811	0.96
Appleton	\$38,725	\$47,000	\$132,500	\$160,813	1.21
Camden	\$77,041	\$44,977	\$274,500	\$160,255	0.58
Cushing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Friendship	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hope	\$44,937	\$49,939	\$158,750	\$176,420	1.11
Owl’s Head	\$69,822	\$46,605	\$249,250	\$166,369	0.67
Rockland	\$42,623	\$33,005	\$141,700	\$109,726	0.77
Rockport	\$66,205	\$60,398	\$243,500	\$222,141	0.91
South Thomaston	\$77,136	\$52,422	\$271,700	\$184,649	0.68
St. George	\$60,403	\$52,118	\$229,500	\$198,021	0.86
Thomaston	\$46,486	\$39,922	\$150,500	\$129,248	0.86
Union	\$42,765	\$46,319	\$149,500	\$161,925	1.08
Vinalhaven	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Warren	\$38,750	\$44,663	\$136,373	\$157,180	1.15
Washington	\$21,389	\$44,235	\$120,000	\$153,676	1.28

Source: Maine Housing Authority

This could be through working with a nonprofit organization to develop units in Appleton, or working with other communities in the region for high-density projects that will allow Appleton residents requiring affordable housing to be close to the community.*

3a. Knox County Homeless Coalition is a grassroots non-profit that began in 2014 to help residents in Knox County located services for their housing needs. This has included creating new affordable housing opportunities by cooperating with municipalities.*

3b. Midcoast Habitat for Humanity is the regional chapter of the known global nonprofit (Habitat for Humanity) that uses donations for affordable rehabilitation and construction projects.*

3c. Outside of regional nonprofit organizations, affordable housing is a regional issue that all municipalities are finding ways to address. This method includes cooperating with neighboring communities for utility projects, policy and ordinance revisions that can encourage new developers, and working with nonprofit services to expand into new areas.

Lot Size and Community Wastewater Facilities*

Permitting the use of smaller size house lots (less than the present one acre minimum), under carefully prescribed conditions may have some important benefits for the Town, such as reducing land costs for low income or elderly housing or permitting clustering in order to protect open space, scenic or natural resource values. However, soil conditions may limit the feasibility of individual onsite septic waste disposal and water supply wells on small lot sizes. Appleton is not densely populated enough to justify the establishment of a dedicated municipal sewer and water district. Appleton's location also makes it difficult for existing sewer districts in Knox County to feasibly expand into the area.

Alternatively, there could be requirements for shared large septic systems that are paid for by developers and users rather than by the Town. The Town could consider including the option of reducing lot sizes in its land use regulations in the event privately developed septic systems can be established for multiple units the new reduction in lot sizes could help meet some specific community housing goal such as low income housing, elderly housing, or reducing housing sprawl on large land parcels to protect open space, the town's rural character or other natural resource factors.

However, it should be noted that, without specific standards laid out in an Ordinance, there is no guarantee new developments can be guaranteed as "affordable" nor protect the rural character of Appleton. It is important that any consideration for future lot sizes must factor the importance of preserving Appleton's rural characteristics.

3. Continuing divergence between housing costs and local income levels make affordable housing less available.
4. The increased cost of land will make building new homes a challenge for low- and moderate-income families.
5. Some new home and driveway sites are chosen without regard to their potential health, safety and environmental impacts.

Goals

1. To control the nature of residential housing growth so that the rural character of Appleton is maintained.
2. To ensure that affordable, safe, and sanitary housing is available to all Appleton residents.
3. To ensure that unregulated development requiring costly expansion of municipal services does not occur.

Policies

1. To protect and preserve the rural character of Appleton.
2. To explore and promote all opportunities for affordable housing in the Town of Appleton.
3. To identify and assist with housing grants and programs, including those programs that encourage the maintenance and upgrading of Appleton's existing housing stock.
4. To allow owners to participate in the construction of their own homes.
5. To ensure that all existing code and ordinance requirements are met for all new and renovation projects to encourage development of quality housing and rental units.*
6. To inform and encourage homeowners with faulty septic systems to rectify these systems and take advantage of cost share programs to bring systems up to code.
7. To assist landowners and homebuilders in developing site plans which will minimize soil erosion and water pollution from septic systems, driveways and excavation.
8. To encourage and promote adequate workforce housing to support the community's and region's economic development. *
9. To encourage and support the efforts of regional housing coalitions in addressing affordable and workforce housing needs. *

Strategies (as described on page 5):

1. Enact land use regulations to address density, lot size, and setbacks that will provide incentives to encourage development of affordable/ workforce housing in Appleton. *
2. Amending Ordinances to allow the addition of at least one accessory apartment per dwelling unit based on site suitability. *
3. Participate in community and regional housing coalitions aimed at supporting affordable/ workforce housing. *
4. Review Appleton Mobile Home Park Ordinance to ensure suitable with 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 4358(3)(M). *

Section 4 Recreational Resources

Introduction

This Section covers what is currently available as recreational resources to the Appleton community, what concerns and opportunities exist and need to be addressed, and the goals, policies, and strategies for providing, promoting, and protecting the recreational resources of Appleton.

Natural Recreation Resources

The Town of Appleton lies in an area that is rich in natural resources that lend themselves well to many types of recreation for residents and visitors. This is the cornerstone of recreational resources for the community. The natural resources of the area offer involvement at both active and passive levels. More in-depth descriptions of each area are available in the Natural Resources section of this document.

St. George River (also known as Georges River): The river runs through the eastern side of Appleton and provides opportunities for fishing, canoeing, hunting, and nature walks. The river flows into Sennebec Pond. There is public access to the river in North Appleton on SR105 where the State Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife owns a strip of land on the south side of the road with parking. There is also limited public access in the village for a short distance above and below the bridge on the east bank. Just south of the bridge in the village is a spot on the east side of the river called the Swimming Hole where children used to swim.

Sennebec Pond: A portion of this large pond is in Appleton. It offers many recreational opportunities year-round but there is currently no public access to the Appleton section of the pond. There is a section on SR131 that lies in Union where access is available, but it is owned and managed by the Town of Union.

Appleton Ridge: Rising above the village to a height of about 600 feet is the highest elevation in the Town. The Ridge offers scenic views and open spaces, however there are no public areas for community use. The view from Appleton Ridge has been identified and listed in the State of Maine's Natural Areas Inventory.

Pieri Pond: A privately owned area on the ridge, it is used by some for swimming and picnicking. It is located on the west side of Appleton Ridge Road.

Shermans Mill Pond: A beautiful area with opportunities for fishing in both winter and summer, it is also used for skating in winter, canoeing and bird watching. A portion of this property was purchased by the Town and converted into Getchell Family Park.

The Medomak River and Pettengill Stream: West of Appleton Ridge, these offer attractive areas for fishing, hunting, canoeing, nature walks, and cross-country skiing. The Town owns several parcels of forest land that are used by hunters, hikers, and other outdoors people.

As part of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan Survey, 40% of respondents noted that town-owned recreational facilities were not adequate and that there is a need for enhancing the current facilities in Appleton. Residents acknowledged the various recreational opportunities in neighboring communities but would prefer to see improved outdoor recreation areas within the Appleton that include public water access. It should be noted that, since the survey took place, the Town established Getchell Family Park in 2021, which might have changed the perspective of some residents.*

Private Recreation Sites

There are some privately owned recreational areas that are available for community use either as an organized affair or by individuals.

- The Riehl Hunting Lodge is located in West Appleton and serves a considerable number of hunters each year.
- Sennebec Lake Campground and Lodge (100 Lodge Lane) is located on SR 131 and offers use of the beach area to Appleton residents for a small fee.
- The Trailmakers Snowmobile Club (Meeting location at 2306 W Appleton Road) maintains a number of trails through the Town that connect with trails from other communities. The snowmobile registration fees paid in Appleton are returned to the club to help with trail making and maintenance. Cross-county skiers, horseback riders, and hikers also use the trails. A great opportunity exists for expanding and promoting this network of trails for use by Appleton residents and visitors to the area.
- West Appleton Country Club offers traditional golf courses and disc golf at 2306 W Appleton Road.
- Appleton Retreat is a “glamping” experience that range from cabins, treehouses, and yurts.

Regional Recreation

The Midcoast area of Maine offers a multitude of natural public and private recreational opportunities for its communities and visitors. The following are some selected regional recreational resources available in the areas surrounding Appleton:

1. Camden Hills State Park, Camden: 30 miles of hiking trails with access from five major trailheads; a 112-site camping area includes flush toilets and hot showers; picnic area; rocky shoreline.
2. Camden Snow Bowl and Ragged Mountain Recreational Area, Camden: Ski area offering 10 trails with 3 lifts (2 chairs and 1 magic carpet). Skiing lessons and equipment rentals are available. Other features include 2 tennis courts, a multi-sport athletic field (soccer, baseball/softball and youth football), a tube sliding area, a racing program and a toboggan chute. The Snow Bowl is the home of the US National Toboggan Championship Races. Hiking and other activities are available in the off-season.
3. Damariscotta Lake State Park, Jefferson: 17 acres; sand beach swimming area with a lifeguard; a group use shelter and playing field; changing rooms; drinking water; picnic tables and grills; small playground.

Summary

The natural resources of Appleton provide numerous recreational opportunities for residents as well as visitors to the area. The amount of public access provided to town-owned lands becomes increasingly important to residents, as the existing recreational facilities and programs in the community and region have not kept up with the recent growth in the area.* In recent years, Appleton has examined new areas to become publicly accessible for residents within the municipality.

There are extremely limited municipal and/or private recreational facilities and/or sponsored events. The lack of recreational activities and events sponsored by the Town limits community involvement. However, the surrounding communities offer numerous natural, public, and private recreational resources and events. It is becoming increasingly evident that recreation in Appleton is a singular activity, privately organized, or must involve travel to another community to partake. To develop an improved sense of community and additional outlets for recreation, more needs to be done to involve the Town in establishing community-driven events and activities that would have a low impact on the municipal resources. The 2021 purchase, and creation, of Getchell Family Park demonstrated how the Town can utilize surplus funds and available grant funding to create recreational amenities with support from the residents. A similar process should be considered for future projects due to the overwhelming support residents showed for this transaction.

Appleton townspeople emphatically want to retain the rural and natural settings of the community. Its natural beauty is the cornerstone to its recreational resources. It may be threatened by mismanagement of lands and waters, increased and higher speed traffic, vandalism, sprawl, fragmentation of land parcels, pollution, and high impact recreational activities. It is important for us all to have respect for our natural resources, learn more about taking care of the land and waters we have within our borders, practice low impact recreation, and put it all into action to preserve these treasures for the future.

Issues of Concern

1. Lack of town-owned land for public recreational use, especially surface water access to Sennebec Pond.
2. Number of residents restricting their land to informal public access.
3. Vandalism to and lack of courtesy for natural and structural resources.
4. Unauthorized use of private and public areas by off-road vehicles and other high impact recreational activities.
5. Fragmentation of land holdings due to growth and/or development.
6. Lack of providing stricter enforcement of the existing laws for the protection of natural resources and recreational facilities.
7. Loss of scenic views due to mismanagement and/or development of open fields and forests.

5. Support private landowners, land conservation organizations and recreational clubs that provide trails for public use. (Select Board, appropriate Boards and Committees, interested clubs and citizens) - *Ongoing*
6. Provide educational materials regarding the benefits and protections for landowners allowing public recreational access on their property. At a minimum this will include information on Maine's landowner liability law regarding recreational or harvesting use, Title 14, M.R.S.A. §159-A. (Select Board) - *Immediate/ Ongoing**
7. Work with existing local land trusts or other conservation organizations to pursue opportunities to protect important open space or recreational land. (Select Board) -*Long Term**
8. Create a list of recreational needs to meet current and future needs. Assign a committee or community official to explore ways of addressing the identified needs and/or implementing the policies and strategies outlined in the plan (Select Board)- *Long-Term**
9. Work with public and private partners to extend the public trail network (Select Board) - *Ongoing**

Section 5 Economy

Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to identify and analyze Appleton's local and regional economy, including income, industry, occupations, employment rates, and retail sales. An understanding of past and present economic trends is important in helping the community predict and adapt to future trends.

The sources of data for this Section are from various State and federal research groups. Each data set does have a margin of error that is typically larger for the local (Appleton) data sets compared to the state and national trends.

Background

The Town of Appleton is historically a farming community that has served the region for agricultural needs or for housing accommodations for workers that commute to nearby municipalities that have larger employers. The Knox County area originally developed economically through a mixture of working waterfronts (fishermen, lobstermen, boat builders, shipping, etc.), farming/ agriculture, and timber harvesting. In recent years, these leading industries have shifted to tourism-based industries (restaurants, retail stores, overnight accommodations), medical practices, and construction; however, the industries that have had an historic presence in Knox County are still thriving in the modern era.

Income

Median household income and the percentage change over the recent period are shown in Table 5-1 below. Between 2010 and 2020, Appleton's median household income has increased at a slower rate than seen countywide and just below the state rate.

Table 5-1 Median Household Income

Place	2010	Margin of Error	2020	Margin of Error	Change
Appleton	\$46,823	+ \$8,317	\$50,795	+ 14,993	+ 22.06%
Knox County	\$45,264	+ \$1,899	\$57,794	+ 2,528	+ 27.59%
State of Maine	\$46,933	+ \$457	\$59,489	+ 682	+ 23.41%

Source: Maine State Economist

The income distribution for residents of Appleton and Knox County is shown in Table 5-2 below for the most recent year for which data are available. Appleton has a larger proportion of households who earn between \$50,000 and \$74,999 than Knox County, as well as a larger proportion of households who earn between \$100,000 and \$149,999 than Knox County. Knox County has a slightly higher proportion than Appleton of households who earn more than \$75,000.

More than one-third of Appleton residents collect social security income. This is a smaller proportion than for Knox County residents. Social Security income includes Social Security pensions, survivor's benefits, and permanent disability insurance payments made by the Social Security Administration, prior to deductions for medical insurance and railroad retirement insurance from the U.S. Government. Almost 14% of Appleton residents received public assistance. Public assistance income includes payments made by Federal or State welfare agencies to low-income persons who are 65 years or older, blind, or disabled; aid to families with dependent children; or general assistance. The income types for Appleton show a higher percentage of people receiving public assistance but a lower percentage of social security or retirement income in town than is seen for the county.

Table 5-4 below shows poverty status in Appleton and Knox County from the 2019 Census. The income criteria used by the U.S. Bureau of Census to determine poverty status consists of a set of several thresholds including family size and number of family members under 18 years of age. In 2021, the average poverty threshold for a family of four persons was \$26,500 in the contiguous 48 states (U.S. DHHS). Over 10% of Appleton's families were listed as having incomes below the poverty level, which included 246 individuals. Appleton has a greater percentage of residents in poverty than Knox County.

Table 5-4: Poverty Status in 2020

Below Poverty Level	Appleton		Knox County	
	Number	%	Number	%
Individuals (below poverty level)	246	100	3,514	100
Persons 18 to 64 years	161	65.5	2,769	78.8
Persons 65 years and over	85	34.5	745	21.2
Families (below poverty level)	47	100	676	100
With related children under 18 years	24	51.1	469	69.4
With related children under 5 years	6	12.8	133	19.7

Source: 2020 American Community Survey

Labor Force

The labor force is defined as all persons aged sixteen or older who either are employed or are receiving unemployment compensation but are actively seeking employment. Appleton has a slightly higher percentage of residents who are in the workforce than does the county. This is due to the greater number of young families living in town, which, when taken with the age distribution presented in the Population Chapter of this plan, indicates a higher percentage of younger adults in town than in the county.

Table 5-7 Employers in Appleton (2023)

Business Name	Address
American Dream Builders	1588 W Appleton Rd
Apple Ridge Farm-Riding School	219 Appleton Ridge Rd
Appleton Baptist Church	108 Searsmont Rd
Appleton Fire Department	2915 Sennebec Rd
Appleton Ridge Construction	1108 Appleton Ridge Rd
Appleton Ridge Flower-Vegetables	145 Appleton Ridge Rd
Appleton Town Office	2915 Sennebec Rd
Appleton Village School	737 Union Rd
Berg Works	1073 Union Road
Bucklin Appraisal LLC	1599 Sennebec Rd
Edgecomb's General Store (Burkettville General Store)	1289 Burkettville Road
Fairwinds Grooming Studio	1761 Sennebec Rd
Glendarragh Farm	151 Searsmont Rd
Jeremy Stitt's	2111 Appleton Ridge Rd
JH Kilton Carpentry	1576 Searsmont Rd
John Fancy Inc	Joes Hi Rd
L & S Concrete	22 Moose Carry Rd
Macdonald Concrete	1406 Sennebec Rd
Midcoast Sealcoating	133 Camden Rd
Mildred Stevens Memorial Library	2916 Sennebec Rd
Patriot Land Surveys	122 Searsmont Rd
Ridgeberry Corp	1005 Appleton Ridge Rd
Rockcoast Painters	1721 W Appleton Rd
Sennebec Lake Campground	100 Lodge Ln
Snowhill Garage	220 Snow Hill Rd
Stone's Auto/Truck Services	360 Union Rd
Terraoptima	980 Gurney Town Road
Union School District 69	737 Union Rd
West Appleton Country Club	2306 W Appleton Rd
Woodland Path	178 Magog Rd
Young Construction	1386 Collinstown Rd

Source: Maine Department of Labor; Union Area Chamber of Commerce and residents

Table 5-10 Workplace of Appleton Residents

Appleton Commuters	2010		2020	
	Number	%	Number	%
	742	100.0	601	100.0
Work in State of Residence	735	99.1	595	99.0
Work in County of Residence	560	75.5	431	71.7
Work Outside County of Residence	175	23.6	164	27.3
Work Outside State of Residence	7	0.9	6	1.0

Source: 2010 and 2020 American Community Survey

Appleton's workforce overwhelmingly commutes by private vehicle. The second largest segment of residents commute by carpool, while the third largest work at home. More information on commuting patterns is found in the Transportation Chapter of this plan.

Table 5-11 Commuting Method 2019

Appleton Residents	Appleton		Knox County	
	Number	%	Number	%
		100		100
Workers 16 years and over	735	--	19,364	--
Drove alone	551	75.0	14,870	76.8
Carpooled	99	13.5	2,093	10.8
Used other means	0	0.0	306	1.6
Walked	9	1.2	714	3.7
Worked at home	64	8.7	1,320	6.8

Source: U.S. Census

Note that this data was collected in 2019, not long before the COVID-19 pandemic began affecting Appleton's residents and their work habits. The 2020-2023 period specifically saw a drastic increase in residents working remotely or working from home. The pandemic will likely have a long-term impact on how Appleton residents work and commute, which is not reflected in the data above.

Summary

The top sectors of employment for Appleton residents (who work in Appleton or elsewhere in Maine) in order, in 2023, were “Educational services, health care and assistance,” “Retail trade,” “Manufacturing” and “Construction.” Living in a rural area limits employment opportunities and increases the costs of commuting to the service centers where most jobs are located. Residents, who responded to the public opinion survey taken in 2020, support the following types of business development in Appleton: farming, restaurants, bed & breakfasts, small retail, craft industries and farm product processing (these include percentages for which over 50% of respondents would like to move to Appleton or expand if they already exist).

Goals

1. To promote economic stability in Appleton's economy through the encouragement and promotion of local services, jobs, sustainable resource production, and clean/green businesses.
2. To direct economic expansion to fit the town's unique rural character.

Policies

1. To retain existing businesses by encouraging citizens to shop locally and to use local service providers.
2. To encourage the location of businesses that are compatible with the town's rural character, including home occupations, businesses based on sustainable natural resource use, and information-based businesses. (To support the type of economic development activity the community desires, reflecting the community's role in the region.)*
3. To provide assistance, if necessary, to support desired economic development, including needed public improvements.*
4. To coordinate with regional development corporations and surrounding towns as necessary to support desired economic development.*

Recommendations/Implementation Strategies (as described on page...)

1. The Town should consider the possibility of sponsoring a local business fair. (Select Board) - *Ongoing*.
2. The Select Board should appoint a committee of several townspeople whose task shall be to identify ways of attracting clean/green businesses to Appleton. (Select Board) - *Immediate*.

Section 6: Agricultural & Forest Resources

Agriculture

Many townspeople raise animals and tend gardens for subsistence and pleasure. Most blueberry lands are located on top of Appleton Ridge, while other agricultural activities are scattered throughout Appleton.

The state offers the Farmland Protection Tax Program, similar to the Tree Growth Tax Program, which allows landowners who are committed to earning an income from farming for at least a five-year period to have their land assessed at current use value rather than a higher market value.

Both commercial and personal agricultural activities play an important role in maintaining the rural character of Appleton. For some landowners, farming provides principal and supplemental income as well as supplying farm products to the community on a small scale. Farming is important not only to the history of the Appleton and the local economy, but also in allowing people to provide for themselves. As part of the Maine School Garden Network, Appleton Village School has a garden promoting education of homegrown produce to our school children.*

Appleton's farmlands, forests, and wild lands combine to form the basis of its rural landscape. Its panoramic views have received state and local recognition as important scenic areas. The townspeople should place priority on the importance of these unique natural features and identify what steps residents should take to ensure their preservation.

Soil Resources

Soils define in large measure an area's biological and agricultural productivity and potential as well as its development potential. Soil is not a renewable resource. Therefore, its management and protection merit serious consideration by its current users. Soil types in Appleton are shown on the following Prime Farmland Soils Map (See attachment).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture defines prime farmland as the land that is best suited to producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce a sustained high yield of crops while using acceptable farming methods. Prime farmland produces the highest yields and requires minimal amounts of energy and economic resources, and farming it results in the least damage to the environment. Prime farmland is a limited strategic resource.

For a complete description of these and other soils found in Appleton, refer to the "Soil Survey of Knox and Lincoln Counties Maine", a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) publication available at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Office in Belfast and Augusta. A copy is also available at the Knox-Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District in Rockport.

Farming and Forestry are uses that are broadly accepted in the Town of Appleton. During the public outreach survey, 82.12% of respondents expressed an interest of more Agriculture uses and 81.01% desiring more Forestry. Appleton does not have local ordinances that restrict either use. * There have been no reported incidents between conflicting uses that abut active farms or timber harvesting; however, the recent demand in housing could threaten the prime farmland and forested areas as developers continue to look for buildable lots.* Appleton also has local conservancy groups (the Midcoast Conservancy, Maine Farmland Trust, Nature Conservancy of Maine, and Georges River Land Trust) that can assist with preserving prime farmlands and forested areas to protect them from development. *

State Tax Programs

Agriculture and forestry activities are important to Appleton's economy and history. Since the previous Comprehensive Plan was approved by the Town of Appleton, there has been growth for small-scale uses that have allowed agriculture and forestry remain relatively stable in Appleton. * The State of Maine offers different tax incentive programs to assist with preserving working farmlands and tree growth areas throughout the state. The Farmland and Tree Growth Programs are voluntary programs that allow landowners to reduce a portion of their tax burden based on the Town assessed value of land placed under protection. To enter into the program, an interested resident must provide a minimum of either five (5) contiguous acres of farmland or ten (10) acres of forested area devoted to growth and commercial harvest. Both programs will remain in effect on the property unless the landowner chooses to pay a penalty for withdrawing the property from the program.

Summary

The public reception and history of Appleton shows a strong desire to preserve agriculture and forestry industries that are still present in the current makeup of the community. However, the soil composition and growing trends also make Appleton a site that could be considered for housing and commercial-scale solar developments if there are high enough investments made to upgrade the utilities in the area. The State offers incentives and tax programs for residents to preserve Tree Growth and Farmlands in Appleton, and local land trusts have also been active in preserving these areas as well.

Policies:

1. To encourage protection of lands identified as prime farmland or capable of supporting commercial forestry.*
2. To support farming and forestry and encourage their economic viability.*
3. Promoting environmentally and ecologically sound methods of farming and forestry.
4. Continue to efforts to protect Appleton's critical natural resources, including wildlife and fisheries habitat, shoreland, scenic vistas, and unique natural areas.

Section 7 Natural and Water Resources

Introduction

Appleton's richness is its natural resources. The Town is especially fortunate to have several large, yet relatively undisturbed land and water areas that not only define the character of the Appleton and afford a special quality of life, but also perform significant resource protection and production functions. Appleton's considerable wetlands offer the region some of the most scenic and biologically important resources. Large undisturbed areas provide essential habitat for deer, moose, waterfowl, and numerous non-game species while also protecting the watersheds and maintaining the purity of both surface and ground waters. Many of the areas are also valued for recreational purposes. Refer to Maps in the Appendix for further detail on the Natural Resources Inventory.

Appleton is also recognized for its scenic value. Areas, such as Appleton Ridge Road, is prized both for its own natural beauty and for the views of the St. George River valley. Appleton receives a great deal of traffic for the scenic views of these natural resources. Other notable scenic places that can be viewed from Appleton includes Patrick Mountain, Hogback and Frye Mountains, the Camden Hills (Megunticook, Mt. Battie, Ragged Mountain, Pleasant Mountain, Spruce Mountain), and even views of Acadia National Park.

Topography

Appleton's topography can best be described as "relatively rugged". With two major river systems and several prominent ridges cutting from southwest to northeast and several swamps covering much of the flat ground, there is relatively fewer level areas in Town. It will be evident from the slopes and Shoreland Zoning maps and the following discussion that such rough topography poses severe constraints to large-scale housing developments. See the Topography Map, Appendix A, for contour elevations and steep slopes (25% and greater) in Appleton.

A series of ridges divide Appleton. Its low point, 88 feet mean sea level (msl) is located at the Sennebec Pond, and its high point is located northwest of Sprague Cemetery on Appleton Ridge at 652 feet msl. The Medomak River exits the Town at approximately 200 feet msl. Between the high point and these two low points, there are many ups and downs.

Appleton Ridge dominates the Town's landscape. It is visible from most points in Town. "The Ridge", as it is known divides the St. George and Medomak River watersheds. It offers excellent views in all directions due to its bald nature.

The river valleys and the ridge tops composed the primary traditional travel corridors. Numerous swamps constituted the principal barriers to travel, and most traditional ways avoided these where possible. Routes connecting ridge top and river generally plunged directly from one to the other along subsidiary ridges. While the river is no longer used for transportation purposes, Appleton's road network does not differ much from the 1700s.

Table 7-1 Per-Acre Phosphorus Allocations for Selected Water Bodies in Appleton

Water Body	DDA	ANAD	AAD	GF	D	F	WQC	LOP	C	P
Johnson Pond	69	5	64	0.25	16	0.74	All are mod - sensitive	m	1.00	0.046
Newbert Pond	333	75	258	0.2	52	3.17		m	1.00	0.061
Sennebec Pond	11336	1500	9836	0.25	2459	101.3		h	0.75	0.031
Sherman's Mill Pond	884	100	784	0.2	157	5.71		m	1.00	0.036
DDA ANAD AAD GF D F WQC LOP C P	Direct land drainage area in Town in acres Area not available for development in acres Area available for development in acres (DDA – ANAD) Growth Factor Area likely to be developed in acres (GF x AAD) lbs. Phosphorus allocated to towns share of watershed per ppb in lake Water quality category Level of Protection (h=high(coldwater fishery);m=medium) Acceptable increase in lake's phosphorus concentration in ppb lbs. Per acre phosphorus allocation (FC/D)									

Source: Maine Department of Environmental Protection, 2017

See the Water Resources Map (Appendix A) for the locations of the following water bodies in Appleton.

Sennebec Pond: Located in the southwestern part of Appleton, Sennebec Pond lies in a glacial depression and is fed by the St. George River, Allen Brook and several small streams. The town line between Appleton and Union roughly bisects the pond, with Appleton having approximately 250 acres of surface area. The shoreline is quite heavily developed with year-round dwellings and summer camps. Appleton residents have no public access to the pond. The Town of Union has a small public access point and boat launch on SR 131 at the southwest end of the pond. A large private campground operates on the western shore, and the lake is popular among fishermen and boaters. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection placed Sennebec Pond in their 2020 Nonpoint Source Priority Watersheds List for Lakes as a “Threatened Lake Priority”. The purpose for this designation was due to sensitive sediment chemistry, which means the area has been determined to be susceptible to internal phosphorus release.

Sherman's Mill Pond: This is a man-made pond of approximately 36 acres formed by the damming of Allen Brook at Sleepy Hollow Road (formerly Sherman's Mill). There are two year-round residences on the pond, but no other cottages or camps. The Town has public access via a 4-acre parcel.

Allen Brook: The headwaters of this small stream lie in Hope and the northeast section of Appleton. The brook was dammed many years ago to form the Sherman's Mill Pond. It empties into the northeast part of Sennebec Pond.

Miller Stream: An important upper tributary of the Medomak River, this small stream originates in a pond near the southwest corner of the Cedar Swamp. The Stream flows west through some wetlands on the west side of the Collinstown Road, then turns south to join the Medomak River just southwest of the Appleton-Washington Townline.

Wetlands

Wetlands play a number of important roles including water quality buffering, water discharge and recharge, shoreline stabilization, nutrient and sediment retention, flood flow alteration and control, habitat for a wide variety of plant and animal species, and recreational opportunities. See the Water Resources Map (Appendix A) for the locations of wetlands in Appleton. The Town's principal wetlands are described below.

Cedar Swamp (also known as Appleton Bog): This is an area nearly three miles long and averaging nearly a half mile in width, located in the northern quadrant of Appleton. It contains the northernmost stand of Atlantic White Cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*) in the country. The Nature Conservancy owns a significant portion of the swamp. Newbert Pond is located near the middle of the swamp, where the Dead River begins. A small open area known as "The Pool", located on the southern edge of the swamp, harbors many unusual and interesting plant species that are found only in northern bogs.

Pettengill Stream and Pond Complex: The second largest wetland in Appleton surrounds the Pettengill Stream. This location covers an area of about 750 acres on the western side of Appleton Ridge, running from the Searsmont line to the old dam southeast of the intersection of Guinea Ridge Road and Moose Carry Road. This huge marsh is a haven for waterfowl, beaver, deer, and other wildlife. The area follows the stream for a distance of four miles with an average width of 1500 feet. This wetland is still an almost untouched wilderness. The Pettengill broadens into a second, smaller wetland about three quarters of a mile downstream from the dam, and this marsh extends nearly to the Union line.

St. George River between Appleton Village and Sennebec Pond: This wetland covers about 140 acres. It is more heavily populated and is less remote than others mentioned in this section. Nonetheless, this wetland is extremely important for migratory waterfowl, particularly in the spring. It is a beautiful section of river of floodplain forest and marsh, and merits serious protection from encroachment, especially from the direction of Sennebec Pond.

St. George River between Searsmont and North Appleton (SR 105): This is a small wetland of approximately 40 acres. It supports a fairly large beaver population along several small feeder streams and is a haven for deer and other wildlife. The beaver receive heavy trapping pressure.

Floodplains

Floodplains are areas adjacent to a river, stream, lake, or pond, which can reasonably be expected to be covered at some time by floodwater. The primary function of floodplains is their ability to accommodate large volumes of water from nearby overflowing channels and dissipate the force of flow by reducing the rate of flow through a widening of the channel. A floodplain may also absorb and store a large amount of water, later becoming a source of aquifer recharge. Floodplains serve as wildlife habitats, open space and outdoor recreation, and agriculture without interfering with their emergency overflow capacity.

Intensive development on floodplains and flood prone areas can increase the severity of floods and cause flooding of previously unaffected areas and should be avoided. The major consequence of intensive development in floodplains and flood prone areas is widespread property damage and loss of life that results from severe flooding. Other significant consequences include the public costs associated with cleanup and rebuilding, increased insurance costs, and water contamination from toxic and hazardous materials.

Appleton participates in the Flood Insurance Program, and its flood protection consists of a Floodplain Management Ordinance. See the FIRM (Floodplain Insurance Rate Map) available at the Town Office for the location of floodplains. Special flood hazard areas are inundated by 100-year floods (less than a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in a given year and include most shoreland and wetland areas.

Appleton has adopted Shoreland Zoning Standards, as required by the State Mandatory Shoreland Zoning Act. This ordinance serves to protect lakeshores by restricting building to reduce flood damage.*

Ground Water Resources

Three small sand and gravel aquifers lie in part or in whole within Appleton's boundaries. See the map titled Water Resources for the locations of the two significant aquifers, which yield 10-50 gallons per minute. A minor aquifer is located just south of the town center and directly under the former town dump. The edges of two aquifers cross over the town boundaries from Washington and Liberty (Appendix A). Other aquifers may exist, but they have not been located. All household water is obtained from drilled and dug wells or springs. Appleton has no municipal water supply.

As with most municipalities, Appleton's water resources are susceptible to threats from contamination. There are no known point sources (direct discharge) of contamination, but several non-point sources exist. For example, there were three underground petroleum storage tanks in Appleton at one time. One tank has leaked in the past, contaminating a residential drinking water supply. The former town dump may contain hazardous materials that could eventually find their way into ground water unless contained.

The protection of the Pettengill Stream is the responsibility of the Town and its inhabitants. While currently in a relatively pristine state for most of its length, the stream and its large associated wetlands are highly vulnerable to disturbance. Even limited development could have a negative impact on the entire area.

Water Resources Summary

Ample rainfall and hilly topography with considerable forest cover provide Appleton with plenty of clean, free flowing brooks and streams. In addition, the lowlands along nearly all of the major waterways frequently broaden into wetlands whose alders, swamp maples and marshes abound with wild birds and give cover for many species of animals. These wetlands are also natural sponges for floodwaters and help assure year-round flows in our streams while helping to charge the underground sources of so much of our drinking water. In short, Appleton's water resources are one of its greatest resources and thus warrants the protection such treasure deserves.

Beginning with Habitat

The Beginning with Habitat program cooperates with state and federal agencies, conservation groups, and regional organization in Maine. As part of the Comprehensive Planning process, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry provided maps to Appleton that highlights different parts of the area that contain highly valuable habitats and natural resources. The following maps can be found in Appendix A of the Comprehensive Plan.

Undeveloped Habitat Blocks & Connectors and Conserved Lands

Throughout the Town of Appleton, a high number of parcels have been placed under private conservation agreements or voluntary easements. These protected areas include sensitive areas surrounding Cedar Swamp, Newbert Pond, and the St. George River.

Water Resources & Riparian Habitats

This map depicts areas in Appleton associated with major surface water features and important public water resources. This map indicates National Wetlands Inventory sites in Appleton, associated Riparian Habitats, and aquifers with a flow of at least 10 gallons per minute. The only aquifer in Appleton can be found along the municipal boundary line shared with Liberty.

This map also depicts the Riparian buffer zone, which is an area that interfaces between land and a body of water. For the maps provided by Beginning with Habitat, these are areas of up to 250 feet from applicable bodies of water.

The Atlantic White Cedar, once widely distributed along the Atlantic coast from Maine to Florida, is now uncommon to rare in New England. The Cedar Swamp itself is a rare natural community and it is especially prized because it has suffered little disturbance. The presence of a rare pondweed (*Potamogeton confertoides*) that reportedly grows in Newbert Pond (within the boundaries of the Critical Area) adds to the significance of the Cedar Swamp. This pondweed is found in only four other locations in the state. Its seeds provide an important food source for migratory waterfowl.

The Pettengill Swamp/Whitney Bog complex is a 1,100-acre peatland that occupies a broad valley at a watershed divide. The northern part of the complex, Whitney Bog, is adjacent to and drains into the St. George River, while the southern part, Pettengill Swamp, drains southward into the Medomak River. In aggregation, this un-patterned fen ecosystem contains multiple types: red maple woodland fen, dwarf shrub bog, tussock sedge meadow, shrub fen dominated by sweet gale and meadowsweet, and black spruce bog.

Bogs serve a noteworthy ecological function, acting as a sponge to collect, absorb and purify runoff water. They are also a unique and fragile ecosystem, extremely sensitive to disturbance. Species that occur at the limits of their range, such as the Atlantic White Cedar, along with their ecosystems, have immense value as study sites and as indicators of environmental change.

Table 7-2 lists the rare species found in the Cedar Swamp and Pettengill/Whitney Bog complex.

Table 7-2
Rare Species/Natural Communities Summary

Common Name	State Status	Global Rank	State Rank	Habitat Description
Natural Communities				
Atlantic White Cedar Swamp		G3/G5	S2	Cedar Swamp
Red Maple Swamp		Not ranked	S4	Cedar Swamp
Un-patterned Fen Ecosystem		Not ranked	S5	Cedar Swamp
Un-patterned Fen		Not ranked	S4	Pettengill Stream
Rare Plants				
Atlantic White Cedar	SC	G4	S2	
Swamp White Oak	T	G5	S1	
Rare Animals				
Upland sandpiper	T	G5	S3B	open fields
Brook Floater	T	G3	S3	acidic fens and wet bogs
Yellow Lampmussel	T	G3/4	S2/S3	streams and rivers

Appleton is also the home of a rare freshwater mussel, the swollen wedge mussel (*Alasmidonta varicosa*), found in the St. George River near North Appleton and identified by Maine's Natural Heritage Program. Freshwater mussels serve an important role in aquatic systems and are an indicator of overall water quality. The St. George River is also noted for its ample supply of freshwater fish such as large and small mouth bass, brown trout, brook trout and pickerel. As such it is rated as a high value river for fisheries and attests to its current good water quality. Pollution and watershed disturbances that cause siltation are the major threats to freshwater fauna and protection efforts must therefore extend beyond the towns boundaries.

Maine's Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIFW) has also mapped and rated several areas as significant wildlife habitat, including seven deer wintering yards. See the Critical Habitat Map, Appendix A, for the location of wildlife habitats.

In 1973, Congress passed the Endangered Species Act to protect rare, threatened or endangered plant and animal species. The value and importance of these species is not always understood, and there has been much debate over this issue. Today, there are resources available to assist with nonprofit and/or municipal acquiring parcels for protection, such as through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund appropriations, or through a State program such as the Land For Maine's Futures.

Threats

Encroaching development, which chips away both at the edges and in the interior of Appleton's large natural areas, threatens to disturb the integrity of these areas. Without careful management, this fragmentation will greatly reduce not only the current natural value of these large parcels but also their long-term viability. As previously discussed, disruption and destruction of significant wildlife habitat areas will result in, among other things, decreased abundance and diversity of wildlife species. This, in turn, could adversely affect hunting, fishing and the enjoyment of other outdoor recreational activities. Disturbances that increase sedimentation of wetlands will significantly inhibit their ability to provide essential watershed protection functions for people and animals alike. Threats to wetlands and surrounding upland forested areas include both commercial and residential development, road, and driveway construction and unseasonable or unsound logging activities.

Throughout the State of Maine, harmful chemicals and contaminants are being found in water and natural resources that threaten the health and safety of the environment and residents if not properly contained and treated. In Appleton, there are residents who have found traces of arsenic in their drinking wells; however, none of these well tests have reported significantly high levels. It is important to properly educate residents about these threats and to encourage ongoing monitoring.*

Natural Resources Summary

Almost 67% of Appleton is forested, 18% is wetlands/open water and almost 14% is grassland/cultivated. Cedar Swamp (about 1,000 acres) and Pettengill Swamp (about 750 acres) function in part as headwaters of and provide flood and water quality protection for the St. George River and Medomak River, respectively. Cedar Swamp has the northernmost occurrence of an Atlantic White Cedar swamp. The Town currently offers protection of its natural resources with locally adopted shoreland zoning, floodplain management, site plan review, subdivision, and mining ordinances. These ordinances will be updated as needed to be consistent with the requirements of state and federal regulations. The Town will continue to cooperate with the local and regional organizations working to protect the natural resources within and surrounding Appleton, including the Georges River Land Trust and the Midcoast Conservancy. Regional efforts should focus on groundwater protection, watershed protection, and land conservation. Performance standards for aquifer and surface water protection are to be included in the land use ordinance and provided when applicable to neighboring communities.*

Issues of concern for Topography

1. There needs to be continued attention to existing topographical constraints during road, driveway and home siting that increases environmental damage and safety hazards.

Issues of Concern for Water Resources

1. Surface water is subject to pollution, much of which is unintentional, from homes, farms, fields, roads, and other sources. The critical importance of individual action to eliminate or alleviate this casual pollution should be stressed at every opportunity.
2. Pettengill Stream and Pond is still an almost natural landscape and every effort should be made to preserve and protect it from future development and encroachment.
3. The health of our most important waterway, the St. George River, depends as much on our neighbors upstream as it does on the people of Appleton; and for the same reason, we have an obligation to our downstream neighbors. Regional cooperation with regard to the river is essential.
4. Recent growth trends demonstrate Appleton's attraction as a nice place to live. Unrestricted development, especially along our beautiful ponds and streams, should be carefully managed.
5. Since protection of water resources is a long-term effort, their protection, maintenance and restoration should be a part of every child's education, and should be incorporated into the school curriculum.
6. Development and other activities (i.e. subdivisions, logging, and sewage disposal) may have adverse effects on water quality, wetlands viability and wildlife habitat. Every effort should be made to protect vulnerable resources and otherwise educate townspeople about stewardship of our water resources.

4. List and prioritize special areas to be preserved due to their scenic beauty, agricultural value, wildlife habitat, etc. Aggressively pursue the establishment of conservation easements and other protection methods on priority properties. Areas of concern include Appleton Ridge (scenic and agricultural value), the entire St. George River-Sennebec Pond corridor, Pettengill Stream corridor, the northwestern quadrant of town that encompasses the Cedar Swamp, and the Mill Pond. (Select Board) - *Long term*
5. Investigate and pursue all possibilities for protection of high priority areas (i.e. Cedar Swamp) including acquisition, conservation easements, etc. (Select Board) - *Long term*
6. Update the current shoreland zoning, floodplain management, and other ordinances, as needed, to protect interior wetlands and identify district types for currently undesignated shoreland districts that are viewed as Critical Resource Areas. (Planning Board, Select Board, Town Meeting) – *Immediate**
7. Ensure compliance with the U.S. Clean Water Acts, the Maine Natural Resources Protection Act, and the town's shoreland zoning ordinance through education and enforcement. (Planning Board, CEO) - *Ongoing*
8. Identify existing uses that threaten ground and surface water resources, monitor them on a regular basis, and require clean-up and/or mitigation where necessary. Take measures to reduce pollution from public and private roads as well as phosphate pollution from fields, roads and residences. (Select Board) – *Ongoing**
9. Identify existing faulty septic systems; encourage landowners to take advantage of cost share programs to bring systems up to code. (CEO) - *Ongoing*
10. Maintain an ongoing dialogue between landowners and the various land protection organizations currently active in the area. (The Nature Conservancy, George's River Land Trust, Midcoast Conservancy) - *Ongoing*
11. Educate landowners within the designated natural resource areas as to the importance of this area and the severe negative impacts of intensive development and invasive species. (Select Board) - *Ongoing**
12. Educate appropriate landowners and townspeople in general about the benefits and importance of wetlands and activities that are compatible or non-compatible with their presence. (Select Board, Planning Board) – *Ongoing**
13. Continue enforcement of Mining Ordinance, review annually to ensure its adequacy to effectively regulate mining. (Planning Board, Select Board) *Ongoing and Long term*
14. Amend local ordinances, as applicable, to incorporate stormwater runoff standards consistent with:
 - a Maine Stormwater Management Law and Maine Stormwater regulations (Title 38 M.R.S.A. 420-D and 06-096 CMR 500 and 502).
 - b Maine Department of Environmental Protection's allocations for allowable levels of phosphorus in lake/pond watersheds.
 - c Maine Pollution Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Program.(Planning Board) – *Immediate*

Section 8 Public Facilities and Services

Introduction

This Section reviews the existing public facilities and services, and estimates future needs based upon anticipated growth and economic development. Current facilities and services are described to determine if they adequately serve the town today and if they have the available capacity to serve the Town for the next ten years. The goal of this Section is to plan, finance, and develop an efficient system of public facilities and services that will accommodate the town's future needs.

See the Public Facilities Map for the location of these facilities within Appleton. *

Governance

Appleton is part of State Senate District 12, State House District 95, and U.S. Congressional District 1.

Appleton operates under the Town Meeting form of government administered by a five-person Select Board serving staggered three-year terms and meeting each Tuesday at 6:30 PM, or on an as needed basis. The town's fiscal year ends on June 30. The town budget, school budget, and other town business, is voted on at the annual town meeting, typically held on the second Tuesday of June. Other town meetings are held as needed throughout the year.

The Town has a capital reserve account for equipment replacement, building maintenance, and highways.

All municipal positions, except school employees, town clerk and deputy town clerk, are part time. The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk also serve as Registrar of Voters, Treasurer and Tax Collector. All town positions are listed below:

Town Clerk (and Deputy)	Registrar of Voters (and Deputy)
Treasurer (and Deputy)	Tax and Excise Tax Collector (and Deputy)
School (see separate entry)	Road Commissioner
Health Officer	Fire Department (see separate entry)
Ballot Clerks	Code Enforcement Officer
Plumbing Inspector	Town Forester
Animal Control Officer(s)	Select Board Members
Janitor	Cemetery Caretakers & Sextons
Addressing Officer	Tax Assessor's Agent

Municipal Buildings, Properties and Services

Town Hall: Located in the former Village School, this building houses the Town Office and meeting rooms. Town meetings are held here and in the Village School. The building is in fair condition with ongoing renovations and repairs but the town clerks have noted that more space will be a required project in the future to meet their needs.

Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library: (Private): Located on Sennebec Road in Appleton. (See the History and Culture Section for the library's history).

Usage: Circulation is 2,500

Capacity: 7,500 books.

Remarks: An annual report is published in the Appleton Annual Report. Funding comes from town appropriation, memorial funds, gifts, book sales, bake sales, rent for the use of the building, grants and other fund-raising efforts.

Collection: Total (approximate) 6,500

As with so many village services the library depends on the help and support of members of the community. There is a need for more community involvement, since most workers, except for one paid employee, are volunteers. The Library Board, which is a volunteer organization not associated with the Town Office, is dedicated to the ongoing maintenance and daily activity of the Library that was built in 2010. Information for the hours of operation and librarian can be found on the library website (<https://appletonlibraryme.org>).

Salt/Sand Storage Shed: Decreed as a town necessity by the State of Maine, a salt/sand storage shed has been built in Appleton, located on Sennebec Road behind the Fire Station.

Fire Station: A three bay fire station is located on property adjacent to the Town Hall and was designed with expansion in mind should voters ever decide to relocate the Town Hall there. The new fire station has a fireproof vault in the basement where irreplaceable town records can be stored safely. Currently records are vulnerable to loss or damage in the present Town Hall.

Medical Facilities

There is no primary health care (acute or preventive) available within Appleton.

Contract ambulance service is available from Union Rescue. The average distance is 10 miles and the average response time to Appleton is less than 30 minutes. Union Rescue responds to over 500 calls per year within their coverage area. Penobscot Bay Medical Center, in Rockport, is 20 miles away. Waldo County General Hospital, Belfast, is also 20 miles away. (The Madge H. Walker Trust provides benefits of free or reduced rate medical care at Waldo County General Hospital in Belfast and Mid-Maine Medical Center in Waterville. Eligibility is defined by the trust.) Physicians' offices are clustered around each acute care facility. Sheepscot Valley Health Center in Cooper's Mills is a walk-in clinic, but it is not always staffed. Visiting RNs (Registered Nurse) are available from the MaineHealth Care at Home program by order of attending medical doctor, paid in part by Medicare. There are also two walk-in clinics in Rockland that are available to Appleton residents. Coastal Medical Clinic is located on Old County Road in Rockland, and the Pen Bay Walk-in Care facility on White Street.

Sheriff Department

The Town of Appleton does not have a dedicated police department. The community is serviced by the Knox County Sheriff's Department. Of the 172 residents that responded to the public outreach survey, 153 residents (88% of respondents) believed that the level of police protection is adequate for the community. Some residents that participated in the survey noted a desire for a faster response time from the Sheriff's Office or for more proactive approaches to address speeding in areas of Appleton besides the town center. The Knox County Sheriff's Office is over 30 minutes away from Appleton. If there is a desire for a faster response time, Appleton should look into a satellite office for a deputy officer to reduce the travel distance for an officer to respond.

Appleton Village School

The Town of Appleton operates the Appleton Village School which provides for the education of as early as pre-kindergarten, to 8th grade in the Town of Appleton. The Town of Appleton is also part of the Five Town CSD through which it provides 9-12 education to Appleton students.

Appleton Village School is located at 737 Union Road. As of April 2023, 136 Appleton students attended AVS. The mission of Appleton Village School is to provide a learning environment that stresses the importance of school, nurtures self-esteem, and ensures the development of knowledge, skills, attitudes and values Appleton students need to be productive members of society. Curricula is reviewed, piloted and adopted by the teachers, principal, superintendent and the school committee. A guidance counselor provides services to individuals and small groups including drug awareness, bullying prevention, emotional and behavioral learning, and family support.

Staff

A principal with the support of one and a half office assistants administers the Appleton Village School. Superintendent services are shared with Lincolnville and Hope through School Union 69. Each grade from PreK-5 has a separate teacher and classroom, grades 6-8 have teachers who specialize in subject matter. There is a literacy teacher, full time teacher aides, an educator's aide who provides special educational services under the direction of 3 special education teachers employed by School Union 69, a full time guidance counselor, and part time personnel for art, Spanish, health, full-time physical education, and music. The school employs two full-time maintenance person and a part-time social worker.

The Appleton Village School employs a full-time registered nurse.

Transportation

AVS contracts with a private contractor on an annual basis to provide 2 buses to transport students over 200 miles to and from school. The CSD hires a private contractor to provide transportation for Appleton 9-12 students to and from the high school. AVS provides transportation to some after school sports and events.

Planning

The analysis of needs and direction is a continual process. Recommendations are made through a collaboration between the school staff, the school committee, team leaders, and the superintendent with the principal.

School Recommendations*

1. Continue summer academics and social skills provided to specific students each year.
2. Continue to develop after-school enrichment activities for our children. These activities should provide physical, vocational, and academic enrichment for our students.
3. Maintain and improve upon the greater community involvement in the education of our students. Continue and build upon programs like the Veteran's Day program and career awareness to link the community and the school.
4. Study the after-school transportation needs of Appleton Village School and Camden Hills High School to ensure safe transportation to after-school events and access for Appleton students to the after-school programs at the high school.

Sewage Facilities

There are no public sewers, and each home has its own on-site subsurface wastewater facility. Most homes have septic tank-leach field systems, but there are a few with cesspools or outhouses in use. The town contracts with Interstate Septic of Rockland for septage disposal. Appleton's location and lack of demand makes it financially difficult to expand or establish a new public sewer line in the community.

Private septic systems must receive a plumbing permit and subsurface wastewater disposal form that is approved by the Local Plumbing Inspector.

Solid Waste Facilities

The Town is a charter member of Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization (TCSWMO) in Union (which serves Appleton, Liberty, Somerville, Union, and Washington). This facility had an adjusted recycling rate of 44.1% in 2003, with waste disposed at PERC in Portland.

As part of the 2019 Comprehensive Plan Survey, 28% of respondents noted the town service of solid waste disposal is not adequate, with many mentioning a desire for Sunday service and the possibility to recycle plastics again. The Transfer Station currently recycles #2 plastics, and there is interest in the Town to convert to universal recycling. The Transfer Station is anticipating financial aid from the State to address package recycling.

Water Supply

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Drinking Water Program records three public water sources in Appleton as of 2023, as noted in Table 8-2.

Table 8-2 Public Water Supplies in Appleton

State #	Public Water System (PWS) Name	PWS Type	Source Name	Source Type
ME0000011	Appleton Village School	NTNC	DR WELL 450'	Groundwater
ME0001002	Sennebec Lake Campground	NC	DR WELL 285'	Groundwater
ME0001002	Sennebec Lake Campground	NC	#2 WELL- 266'	Groundwater

Source: Maine Department of Health and Human Services

NTNC (non-transient, non-community)

NC (non-community)

Metcalf Cemetery

Location: East side of Guinea Ridge Road off SR 105

Condition: good, partially restored

Usage: closed

Remarks: Veterans from the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the American Civil War

Miller Cemetery

Location: Miller Cemetery Road

Condition: excellent

Usage: open

Capacity: family lots are all taken.

Remarks: headstones show burials from Camden, Rockport, Liberty, Washington, and Appleton.

Quaker Cemetery (Wentworth)

Location: Sennebec Road, west Side, south of Gushees Corner

Condition: very good

Usage: closed

Remarks: contains foundation of the Quaker meeting house; also a Gushee obelisk with family area

Pine Grove Cemetery

Location: off Sennebec Road, east side of the hill from river

Condition: good

Usage: open

Capacity: 1,500 lots in use with 40 lots planned for 2 spaces each.

Remarks: Pine Grove has several parts, the old and new area, referred to as the Ames addition

7. Public access to Sennebec Pond.
8. There are town-owned roads that remain unpaved.

Goal

To maintain Appleton's existing public facilities and services while minimizing the fiscal and environmental impact of any future new or improved public facilities or services.

Policies

1. Expand and improve Appleton's (through TCSWMO) existing recycling program and explore the applicability of additional solid waste disposal methods (i.e. composting, source reduction of waste materials, etc.)
2. Encourage greater participation of Appleton residents in the fire department.
3. Work closely with adjoining towns in Mutual Aid Response and purchases.
4. Increase contributions to a capital reserve fund, to be used for equipment replacement, building maintenance, and highways.
5. Educate the public regarding financial assistance programs available to upgrade septic systems.
6. Develop additional cemetery space in Appleton.
7. Ensure the town's compliance with the State law regarding septage disposal.
8. To efficiently meet identified public facility and service needs.*

Strategies (as described on page 5)

1. The fire department should establish a committee within its organization to prepare and present to the residents at future annual town meetings programs addressing methods to: (a) acquire new equipment as required, (b) increase participation and (c) increase cooperation with adjoining town fire departments. (Fire Department) - *Ongoing*
2. Remain Active in the management of local EMS operation. (Select Board) - *Ongoing*
3. The town (through TCSWMO) should continue to educate its citizens on the importance of recycling by using fliers, informational meetings and school programs. Literature on TCSWMO's recycling program should be made readily available to residents at the town office and on the website. (Select Board) - *Ongoing*

Section 9 Fiscal Capacity and Capital Improvement Plan

Introduction

All planning decisions must take into account a municipality's ability to make the necessary expenditures and the effect this spending will have on its citizens. An analysis of past and present fiscal trends will help to forecast future operational and capital expenditures and enable the Town to meet these commitments.

The primary funding source for municipal government is property tax revenue. In order to maintain a consistent mil rate year to year, a Town government must operate in a fiscally responsible manner. Large increases in the tax rate can cause public outcry and can discourage economic development. Although the priorities of the Town change from one election year to another, stable municipal finances are always a fundamental responsibility of municipal government. It is important for Appleton to handle diligently all yearly expenditures while at the same time planning for the Town's long-term objectives. As is the case with any business, the physical assets of Appleton must be properly maintained through capital reserve accounts to protect the Town's continued economic health. The goal of this Section, as with the Public Facilities Section, is to discuss plans for, finance, and develop an efficient system of public facilities and services to accommodate anticipated growth and economic development, without placing an enormous burden on the Town's taxpayers.

The majority of the financial information for this Section was taken from Town reports.

Valuations

As noted, the Town's primary revenue source is through the taxation of real and personal property. These taxes are assessed to local property owners according to the fair market value of their property. This assessment is known as the municipal valuation and is determined by the local tax assessor. Between FY18 and FY23, the Town valuations grew by 2.22% (\$2,617,320). The numbers below were taken before the Town conducted a revaluation, which typically occurs every ten years or when the Town's certified assessment ratio falls below 70% of the fair market value.

Table 9-1

Valuations from FY2018 to FY2022 (for year ending June 30)*

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change (%)
Appleton	\$117,935,760	\$119,122,800	\$120,385,500	\$119,342,860	\$120,553,080	+2.2% (2,617,320)

Source; Appleton Town Reports

State law provides for tax exemptions for certain types of property, including charitable and benevolent, religious, literary and scientific, and governmental organizations.

Table 9-2 provides the mil rates for Appleton and how they have changed after 5 years. To remain consistent with the other tables, Table 9-2 only shows between Fiscal Year 2018 and Fiscal Year 2022. In the most recent tax year (Fiscal Year 2023), Appleton dropped the mil rate to \$21.50 for every \$1,000. This recent change would result in a change of -\$1.30 for every \$1,000, or a 5-year change of negative 5.7%.

Table 9-2
Mil Rates by Fiscal Year (for year ending June 30)

Municipality	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change	Change (%)
Appleton	21.70	22.80	22.80	22.80	22.80	+1.10	+5.1%

Source: Appleton Town Reports

Debt*

Since the approval of the last Comprehensive Plan in 2007, the Town of Appleton has accrued debt from two projects:

A loan was taken out by the Town of Appleton to purchase a fire truck. The loan was closed on March 6, 2020 for \$306,561. As of the writing of this Plan, the Town still owes \$202,589.96.

The second project was a bond to assist with renovations of the Appleton Village School. The Bond was issued on November 3, 2016 for \$650, 000. As of the writing of this Plan, the Town still owes \$371,428.56.

Municipal Revenues and Expenditures

Table 9-3 below shows the major sources of municipal revenue for Fiscal Year 2018 through Fiscal Year 2022. Intergovernmental revenues consist of road maintenance funds, tree- growth, veteran and homestead reimbursements. Other sources consist of general assistance funds, insurance dividends, sales of Town property, fees, interest on investments, transfers from other funds, interest and municipal revenue sharing.

It is difficult to predict municipal expenditures in the coming years. Demands for services, county assessments, valuation, population, and many other factors all enter the very political process of determining expenditures every year. It should also be noted that the amounts for FY22 and FY23 are unaudited amounts.

Table 9-4 shows the money spent for each of the major departments within the Town during the same period of time as Table 9-3. Both received information from the Appleton Town Reports and the Tax Assessor's Agent.

Table 9-4

Town of Appleton Actual Expenditures FY2017-FY2022 (for year ending June 30)*

Categori es	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
General Gov't.	\$229,329	\$242,987	\$243,005	\$258,593	\$304,486.96
Protection	\$135,765	\$152,906	\$191,976	\$202,945	\$296,764.37
Highway & Bridges	\$647,176	\$660,043	\$529,500	\$514,500	\$772,156.66
Sanitation	\$40,519	\$40,100	\$40,050	\$42,200	\$42,891.08
Misc.	\$73,954	\$67,371	\$23,600	\$120,323	\$129,193.00
County Taxes	\$128,308	\$136,026	\$148,637	\$150,210	\$156,523.00
Education	\$474,932	\$554,710	\$505,190	\$491,664	\$481,078.00
Total	\$1,729,983	\$1,854,143	\$1,682,408	\$1,782,575	\$2,183,093.07

Capital Improvement Plan*

The Comprehensive Plan Committee wishes to point out that approval by the voters of this Plan does not in itself raise or appropriate the itemized funds in any category, nor does it mandate the approval of these funds at a later date. All expenditures listed in this report must be approved by the voters at Town Meeting or by secret ballot when each item is presented to voters.

The Town does have the ability to borrow to pay for capital investments, in the past, this has assisted the Town and would continue to do so if properly managed. This income could be allocated to pay for specific capital improvement needs.*

For the purposes of the Comprehensive Plan, the Estimated Cost and Priority for the projects are categorized as shown below. Because prices are subject to change, and some projects are based on potentially multiple items, some categories will state a “to” since the price may be on the higher end of one tier while on the lower end of another.

Additional Comments:

- The School intends to address the additional space and climate control items as soon as possible, and with any remaining funding that came as a result of COVID-19.
- The climate control task involves installing heat pumps to help make the southern side of the building comfortable to use during extreme weather days. There are rebates and grants available to assist with these types of improvements.
- The 3-phase upgrade would benefit the School so it can use items requiring more energy usage; however, they are aware of the high expense and do not want to have the upgrade done if they are the only beneficiaries. The Town could use federal funding through programs such as Northern Borders Regional Commission to assist with utility upgrades.
- Schools are required to purchase additional buses and create more school space when the population goes up by 150. This could impact the Capital Improvement Plan if the population continues to grow. Knox County is currently the fastest growing county in the State of Maine and could continue seeing a boom in student enrollment.
- At the time of writing, the School has benefited from \$0.08 per kwh for their electricity. The School has until October 2024 to find a long-term solution or risk the rate nearly tripling. The School advocates for a joint meeting with the Town for a solar farm. The State offers Climate Action Grants to assist with creating solar farms, and a joint purchase between the municipality and School budgets could lower the overhead expenses and upfront costs. The municipality also noted having municipal buildings on solar as a capital improvement project that is something they wish to address in the future.

MUNICIPAL

<u>Item</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Priority</u>
Maintaining roads	High	High
Having municipal buildings on solar	Low to Moderate	Medium
Making municipal buildings energy efficient	Low to Moderate	Medium
Increasing storage of administrative documents	Low	Medium
Paving roads that are currently gravel	Moderate to High	Low

Regional Collaboration*

The Town participates in two separate cooperative purchasing programs that assist in reducing overhead expenditure. The Town participates in the Knox County cooperative purchasing program that aims to lower costs of heating and transportation fuels as well as road salt. Appleton is also a member of the Midcoast Council of Governments/ Greater Portland Council of Governments' cooperative purchasing program that includes offers bulk purchasing for paper, basin cleaning, road striping, and more that can be found on their website.

Appleton also collaborates with neighboring towns to provide adequate emergency services (fire, ambulance, and police) for the residents. Appleton is part of a mutual aid agreement with all abutting municipalities' fire departments, which allows a greater coverage area in the event of a fire. Appleton also pays an annual fee to the Union-Washington ambulance service to assist residents facing a medical emergency. By continuing to work on regional collaborations for these services, Appleton has been ensuring residents received emergency coverage in a cost-effective manner. The Select Board is continuing to examine ways to improve regional service coverage and partnerships.

Summary

As indicated by the figures, Appleton has been doing very well in managing its finances over the last five years.

Issues of Concern

1. Given Appleton's dependence on State funds, further decreased State funding levels would have a negative impact on municipal operations.
2. An increasing residential population will increase the demand for municipal services. Costs of services will, most likely, be higher than increased property tax revenues and thus create a higher tax rate.
3. If the school age population increases, educational expenditures could increase and could cause taxes to increase.

Goal

To promote stability and practicality in local fiscal management while minimizing the financial impact of tax assessments on residents.

Policies

1. To seek out and apply for state and federal grant programs, the funds for which can be used to lessen the financial impact of new or improved municipal facilities and services.*
2. To consider a policy which would (a) require new commercial and residential subdivisions be financially responsible for all changes in current municipal services and facilities and (b) ensure that any municipal water or sewage facilities and services are maintained and upgraded by the owners/tenants.
3. To consider alternative property tax payment schedules.
4. To finance existing and future facilities and services in a cost effective manner*
5. By staying within LD 1 spending limitations.

Section 10 Transportation

Introduction

A safe and dependable transportation infrastructure is the lifeline of a community that links it to its neighbors and the outside world. This is particularly true for small rural communities that have little or no access to a public transportation system.

This chapter details the current condition and usage of Appleton's roadways and bridges as well as provides an overview of the Town's total transportation system. Road names and geographic locations are taken from the Appleton Road Name Directory and Maine Department of Transportation. These names occasionally vary from local usage but have been used to maintain consistency.

Roadways

There are three types of roads in Maine: arterial highways, collector highways and local roads.

Arterial Highways: State highways are usually arterials and are comprised of a system of connected highways throughout the state that serve arterial or through traffic. Arterials carry high-speed, long-distance traffic and attract a significant amount of federal funding. They usually carry Interstate or U.S. route number designations. There are no arterials in Appleton.

Collector Highways: State aid highways are usually collectors and are roads that are not included in the system of state highways but serve as feeder routes connecting local service roads to the state highway system. These roads collect and distribute traffic to and from arterial routes, serving places of lower population densities, and are somewhat removed from main travel routes.

Local Roads: Local roads include all other public roads not included in the state aid classification system. These roads are maintained entirely by the municipality. Based on the state system, they function as local service roads that provide access to adjacent land. Some local roads may actually be functioning as collectors. Local roads with annual average daily traffic counts greater than 200 vehicles per day and/or serving more than 25 residences may be considered collectors.

Appleton has approximately 47.9 miles of roads. The state maintains 12.5 miles, while the Town maintains 35.4 miles of roads. Of the 35.4 miles maintained by the Town, 19 miles are gravel roads. The two state-maintained roads in Appleton, SR (State Route) 105 and SR 131 are classified by MDOT as collectors. Trucks use SR 131 as a bypass to US Route 1. It is also used by lumber and gravel trucks originating from local logging operations and quarries. These roads are vitally important as they connect with other arterials and collectors and allow Appleton residents to commute to work and shop outside of town. All state-maintained collector roads in Appleton have a paved surface. SR 17, an arterial that allows access to I-95 in Augusta and U.S. Route 1 in Rockland, is located approximately 6 miles to the south in Union.

Roadway	Description TL=Townline	Arterial, Collector, Local, Public Easement or Private	Length in Miles	Owned by	Maintained by	Surface
Town Hill Rd	Union Rd (SR 105/131) to Appleton Ridge Rd	Local	0.8	Town	Town	Paved
Chaples Rd	Union Rd (SR 105/131) to Town Hill Rd	Local	0.23	Town	Town	Gravel
Whitney Rd	Appleton Ridge Rd to end	Local	1.2	Town	Town	Gravel
W. Appleton Rd	Union Rd to Searsmont TL	Local	4.83	Town	Town	Paved
Old County Rd	W. Appleton Rd to end	Local	0.29	Town	Town	Gravel
Back Rd	W. Appleton RD to end	Local	0.12	Town	Town	Gravel
Lower Rd	W. Appleton Rd to end	Local	1.2	Town	Town	Gravel
Sennebec Rd	Searsmont Rd to Union TL	Local	3.32	Town	Town	Paved
Gushee Rd	Sennebec to Cottage Ln	Local	0.3	Town	Town	Gravel
Gurneytown Rd/Sleepy Hollow Rd	Sennebec Rd to Sennebec Rd	Local	2.68	Town	Town	Paved
Hillside Rd	Gurneytown Rd to end	Local	0.20	Town	Town	Gravel
Peasetown Rd	Gurneytown Rd to Hope TL	Local	1.1	Town	Town	Gravel
Jones Hill Rd	Gurneytown Rd end	Local	0.8	Town	Town	Gravel
Peabody Rd	Sennebec Rd to Camden Rd (SR 105)	Local	2.37	Town	Town	Mixed
Magog Rd	Camden Rd (SR 105) to Searsmont TL	Local	0.81	Town	Town	Gravel

Source: Town Clerk, Road Commissioner

Traffic Volumes

Table 10-4 shows the roads with the highest Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) counts in Appleton. The volumes represent both through traffic and local activity. Seasonal variation, with peak volumes in the summer, is averaged in these figures. Additional data can be found on the Maine Department of Transportation Public Map Viewer that can be accessed online (<https://www.maine.gov/mdot/mapviewer>).

Table 10-4 Traffic Volumes

Location Description	AADT in 2016	AADT in 2019	Change
SR 105/131 (SEARSMONT RD) SW/O SR 105	1,700	2,010	+310
SR 131 (SEARSMONT RD) NE/O SR 105	1,960	1,990	+30
SR 105/131 (UNION RD) NE/O SR 105	1,730	1,870	+140
West Appleton Road	2,320	Data not available	N/A

Source: Maine Department of Transportation, 2019 data

Safety

According to Maine DOT, from 2012 through 2022 there were 265 reported accidents in Appleton. There were no fatalities, 47 accidents with serious personal injuries, 218, only involved property damage. Maine DOT calculates roadway and intersection safety and found no high crash locations in Appleton, i.e., areas with at least 8 accidents occurring in 3 years. Nevertheless, residents have expressed concern with these areas.* Speed limits are posted on SR 105/131 in the school vicinity and on other heavily traveled roads. Accidents commonly occur on SR 105 and SR 131. Of the 265 reported accidents that took place in Appleton between 2012-2022, 45 accidents took place on SR 105 (Burketville Road), while 107 accidents were on SR 131 (Union Road). This information can be found online at the Maine Public Crash Query Tool website (<https://mdotapps.maine.gov/mainecrashpublic/>).

Access Management

Access Management is the planned location and design of driveways and entrances to roads. Such planning reduces accidents and prolongs the useful life of arterial roadways. While arterial highways represent only 12% of the state-maintained highway system, they carry 62% of the statewide traffic volume. Maintaining posted speeds on this system helps people and products move faster, which enhances productivity, reduces congestion-related delays and environmental degradation. By preserving the capacity of the existing roads, Appleton can reduce the need to build costly new highway capacity such as new travel lanes and bypasses.

Public Transportation*

No public transportation is available in Appleton. Concord Trailways offers coach service from Rockland.

When asked about using a public transportation system, 75% of respondents to the Comprehensive Plan Survey (130 residents) stated that they wouldn't use the public transportation system. The residents do have sufficient access to transportation thanks to volunteer groups and nonprofits, such as Waldo Community Action Partners, that offer transportation for purposes such as taking residents to medical services. These services are by appointment only.

Air Transportation*

There are no airports in Appleton. The closest FAA-approved airport is Ridgeview Airport-12ME in Searsmont, which is registered for private use.

Primary regional airports include:

Bangor International Airport provides national and international commercial passenger and freight services, as well as civil defense operations. The largest runway is 11,441 feet long. Car rental services are available.

Knox County Regional Airport serves Knox County with scheduled commercial service (Cape Air and Penobscot Island Air), air taxi and general aviation, and is owned by Knox County. The longest runway extends 5,000 feet. Voluntary noise abatement is in place, limiting hours of operation. The facility is about 3 miles from Rockland in Owls Head and has an average daily use of 106 air operations per day, making it one of the busiest airports in the State of Maine. Fuel is available: 100LL JET-A.

Augusta State Airport serves Augusta and Kennebec County with scheduled commercial service, air taxi and general aviation, and is owned by the State of Maine. The longest runway extends 5,000 feet. Fuel is available: 100LL Avgas and Jet A.

Belfast Municipal Airport is a 218-acre general aviation airport owned by the City of Belfast. The airport is leased out for flying instructions and charter companies (Aero Charter New England, Air New England, Cobalt Air, Kestrel Air, and Skip Air).

Railways*

There are no rail lines in Appleton or active rail service in neighboring towns. Rockland and Thomaston have a rail line that services limited freight needs. Until 2015, residents had the ability to take passenger rail service between Rockland and Brunswick; however, this service has been discontinued.

In addition to their Work Plans, the Maine DOT has begun to implement the Village Partnership Initiative, which is a cooperative program to address improvements to state aid roads that go through village areas of communities. These improvements focus on traffic calming measures, streetscape and visual improvements, and expanding non-vehicular infrastructure. Municipalities, such as Appleton, are allowed to apply and provide matching funding for projects that can vary in size.

Town Road Commissioner

The Town has a Road Commissioner (an elected official) to coordinate road maintenance, upgrade schedules, and perform other regulatory duties related to the roadways of Appleton. The Commissioner is responsible for approving driveway applications on town-maintained roads and providing advice to the Planning Board and CEO on proposed driveway entrances.

Summary

Major transportation linkages in Appleton consist of SR (State Route) 105 and SR 131. Residents rely on the road network as their primary means of transportation movement. Therefore, state and town roads should provide safe, reliable access to work, school, stores, and residences. Overall, Appleton's roadways are in fair to good condition. Given limited funding and the significant expense, the Town has done a noteworthy job of maintaining its local roads. Continued proper and affordable maintenance of the road network will be in the best interest of all residents. Since Maine DOT has jurisdiction over state roads and several bridges within Appleton, the Town will continue to communicate and cooperate with the Department of Transportation to ensure necessary roadway improvements are made in a timely manner.

Issues of Concern

1. Potential costs for maintaining the roads.
2. Safety and liability regarding the four town owned bridges listed in 'poor condition' and in need of repair.
3. A need for a road maintenance/management schedule given the increase in the population and traffic volume.
4. Difficulty of establishing public transport due to such a diversity of areas that are frequented.
5. Increased traffic volume may also contribute to an increased number of accidents, particularly at SR 105 and 131.
6. Increased volume of vehicle traffic has had a negative impact on local roads, particularly during the mud season.

4. To promote pedestrian and bicyclist friendly facilities, the Town should welcome opportunities to create walking and bicycling spaces and to facilitate the development of park and walk, or park and bike facilities. Through public participation the town should prioritize potential projects, and then seek funding from appropriate sources such as Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) infrastructure funds and Maine DOT Village Partnership Initiative. Private landowners and public support for these project proposals will be obtained before the Town commits resources. (Select Board, Planning Board, Road Commissioner, Town Meeting) – *Immediate*

5. The Town should initiate or actively participate in regional and state transportation efforts. (Select Board, Road Commissioner) - *Ongoing**

6. The Town should maintain, enact or amend local ordinances as appropriate to address or avoid conflicts with:

- a. Policy objectives of the Sensible Transportation Policy Act (23 M.R.S.A. §73);
- b. State access management regulations pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. §704; and
- c. State traffic permitting regulations for large developments pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. §704-A.

(Planning Board) - *Short-term*

7. The Town should maintain, enact or amend ordinance standards for subdivisions and for public and private roads as appropriate to foster transportation-efficient growth patterns and provide for future street and transit connections. (Planning Board) - *Short-term**

8. Consider improving facilities for parking and walkways in the Appleton Village area. (Road Commissioner, Select Board) – *Ongoing*.

Section 11A Existing Land Use

Introduction

As with many inland communities in Maine, people move to Appleton because of its peaceful, rural character and relatively low prices compared to the coastal counterparts. Preparing and planning for growth can allow for the protection of rural character and values, can prevent unsightly sprawl, can provide for the most efficient use of public services, and can minimize unnecessary increases in costs and services. The inventory and analysis of current land use practices is an essential step in developing a comprehensive plan for any community. The land use inventory, in conjunction with the current land use and land cover maps, and maps showing natural resource constraints, can be used to understand development trends, to identify potential problem areas, and to determine areas most suitable for future residential and commercial development.

Historical Perspective

Appleton was incorporated as a town in 1829. During the lumber boom of the 1850s it reached its peak population of 1,727 residents. Community centers grew up around mills along the waterways that provided transportation routes for goods produced in the area. Other businesses flourished along with the mills, including cooper shops, blacksmiths, and millineries. The largest of these settlements was in the present village area. Other population centers developed in North Appleton and Burkettville. Small family farms were spread throughout the town. In the 1930s the population fell to an all-time low of 574. Economic hard times and a change of transportation systems demonstrated that Appleton's location, its poor soils and steep slopes could not compete with more agriculturally productive and centrally located areas. The role of agriculture has thus decreased. Second growth trees have taken over former fields and farms. Logging also holds less importance than it once did for the local economy. Fewer residents now make their living from the land, and most go out of town to earn their living. Thus, Appleton has become more of a residential community and less of a resource production area. The 1970s brought a new influx of people to Appleton, increasing the population by over thirty percent. This trend continued through the 1980s, 1990s and to the present day. Over the years, many of the community's gathering places have been lost. The loss of these locations has not only hindered the provision of goods and services to residents, but has more importantly damaged the sense and function of community. Seven remaining unofficial gathering places exist: the Appleton Village School, Appleton Historical Society Meeting House, the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library (Appleton Library), the Medomak Valley Grange, the Town Hall, the Foda Restaurant, and Edgecomb General Store (formerly known as the Burkettville General Store). Although Appleton's population is increasing, local services have dwindled; regional service centers in larger communities have grown. Appleton maintains records of permits by utilizing a physical and digital system to track development in the community that is consistent with the local standards.*

Commercial Development *

Appleton does not have a large commercial base. Most working residents commute to larger urban centers for jobs and major shopping. Local businesses do provide some basic services. Home occupations constitute the most significant group of local businesses, which are scattered throughout Town.* Some constitute the sole livelihood for their operators while others provide supplemental income. See the Economy Section for a description and listing of local employers and businesses.

All new commercial or industrial projects must satisfy the requirements of the Site Plan Review for Commercial Development Ordinance overseen by the Planning Board.

Public and Tax-Exempt Land

There are several publicly owned and tax-exempt lands in Appleton. The town itself owns five parcels of primarily forested lands encompassing 298 acres. These were obtained through tax foreclosures. Two parcels are in West Appleton, one parcel along Pettengill Stream and two parcels along Collinstown Road.

Other municipal properties include the town office, the Fire Department and the Appleton Village School. Tax-exempt lands include the Appleton Baptist Church, the Mildred Stevens Williams Memorial Library, the Union Meeting House, the Medomak Valley Grange in Burkettville, The Nature Conservancy property in the Cedar Swamp (approximately 950 acres) and several parks within the Village area. A map displaying the conserved lands can be found in Appendix A.

Existing Town Land Use Regulations and Ordinances

The following is a summary overview of Appleton's Land Use Ordinances. A complete can be found on the Appleton Town Office website.

1. Addressing Ordinance: The purpose of this ordinance is to enhance the easy and rapid location of properties for the delivery of public safety and emergency, postal delivery, and business delivery.
2. Building Permit Regulations: Adopted to ensure safe construction, protect neighbors and natural resources, and to facilitate equitable tax assessment.
3. Floodplain Management Plan: Adopted to provide homeowners access to floodplain insurance, to improve the limited construction that does occur in flood prone areas, which reduces reconstruction costs and public services/aid needed. The Town updates the Floodplain Management Plan to stay consistent with state and federal standards.*
4. Hazardous Waste Ordinance: Prohibits the transportation, disposal, or storage of hazardous wastes within the boundaries of the town.

Appleton's geography, with its steep slopes, shallow and rocky soils and extensive wetlands, is poorly suited for high-density development. To protect soil and water quality it is imperative that future development is sensitive to the land's physical constraints. Property owners and residents will ultimately determine the future of Appleton's land, how it will be used, cared for and valued.

To obtain guidance from Appleton residents regarding their wishes for the town's future, the Comprehensive Plan Committee distributed a survey concerning local land use issues in 2020.

Of the 180 residents who completed the survey, preserving the town's rural character and protecting its natural resources ranked as their highest priorities. Preserving agricultural land and large tracts of undeveloped forestlands were also ranked high as priorities. Most respondents indicated their appreciation for the quality of rural life, the beauty of the area and the quiet. Most residents indicated concern over solid waste disposal options for the town. For a more detailed review of the survey results, please refer to the Survey Results in Appendix A.

The results of this 2020 survey contributed to the development of future land use concerns for Appleton residents:

1. Continued and unregulated residential development can or will:

- (a) result in loss of productive agricultural and forest lands
- (b) interrupt scenic views
- (c) change the rural character of Appleton
- (d) fragment and therefore disturb or destroy prime wildlife habitat areas;
- (e) have adverse effects on water quality through increased runoff from new roads, driveways, septic systems and yards

2. There are few physically suitable areas in Town for concentrating on future growth. In many areas of town both residential and commercial development must overcome many natural (physical) constraints so as not to adversely affect water quality.

3. While several state and local regulations exist, they are only effective when they are enforced. In many cases, it is the public's responsibility to ensure enforcement of certain activities. Increased development also places increased demands on the Code Enforcement Officer's time. To meet these demands, the Town may need to expand his hours. In addition, to address the complexity of certain situations, a multi-disciplinary review team may be required, consisting of some or all of the following town officers: Road Commissioner, Town forester, Planning Board members, Code Enforcement Officer and Select Board.

Section 11B Future Land Use

Managing Land Use

The Maine State Land Use Planning and Regulation Act of Maine requires the identification of Growth and Rural Areas within municipalities that are growing in population.

The designation of Growth Areas is intended to encourage development in places most suitable for such growth and away from places where growth and development would be incompatible with the protection of rural resources. Based on growth management, Growth areas are to be located close to municipal services to minimize the cost to the municipality for the delivery and maintenance of these services.

The designation of Transitional Areas is intended to encourage continued observation of portions of a community that has historically had an importance to the community but has natural or man-made restrictions that could prevent it from being a Growth Area. Appleton is encouraged to find grants and resources to continuing improving the civic infrastructure in these areas with the possibility of this site being in a Growth Area in the future.

The designation of Rural Areas is intended to protect agricultural, forest, scenic areas, and other open space land areas from incompatible development and uses. A Comprehensive Plan is not a Land Use Ordinance, but it can serve as the legal foundation of current and future Land Use Ordinances. In the future the establishment districts may be recommended but they would be subject to a vote at Town Meeting.

The proposed land use districts described below do not identify specific parcels or areas needed to accommodate predicted growth and development. Only detailed site-specific analysis, working in direct consultation with property owners, can determine the precise location of proposed districts. This Comprehensive Plan has not assessed landowners' desires to sell their land for development, to develop it themselves, or to leave it undeveloped.

Growth Area

Intersection of Magog Road, Peabody Road, and Camden Road (SR 105)

When considering favorable places for growth and development, the recommendation for this location is based on the potential the area presents. The topography and location on SR 105 would make this a more favorable location for a developer interested in being connected to the region to place and commercial or residential structures that are heavily dependent on state-owned infrastructure.

The Proposed Growth Area is depicted on Map D-1 in Appendix B.

General Recommendations for Land Use Ordinance

Land use regulations should achieve the goals of the Comprehensive Plan and reduce the number of non-conforming properties. The Comprehensive Plan should not impose burdensome requirements on the everyday activities of the town's residents. Likewise, the Plan should not create costly enforcement issues for town government. The ultimate goal of growth management is to regulate land use development to the extent necessary to protect natural resources, property values, and public safety.

In ordinances, specific standards and clear definitions are needed because all ordinances must meet the minimum standards as set forth by state law. In addition, it is important that land use ordinances be consistent with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan provides the legal basis for enacting the ordinances, and their consistency with the plans, goals, and policies will be a major consideration in the event that the ordinances are subject to a legal challenge.

Outside of the Shoreland Zone, the Town of Appleton does not have separate Districts for land use regulations.* While the Town of Appleton is not required to implement a Land Use Ordinance, this Comprehensive Plan shall provide the framework for an Ordinance if it is implemented by the community. Due to the rural nature of Appleton, the desire to create Land Use Zoning is a low priority.*

The residents of Appleton have identified several specific needs and concerns that will be addressed in land use ordinances. Land Use Ordinances may be amended to:

- (1) create districts to incentivize development in Growth Areas;
- (2) maintain a user-friendly permitting process; and
- (3) encourage larger minimum lot sizes for areas outside the identified Growth and Transitional Areas.

Enforcement

The value of any ordinance is dependent on how well it is enforced. In order to achieve better enforcement, two issues are of importance:

- (1) the education of residents as to the requirements of local and state regulations, and
- (2) provision for adequate hours for the code enforcement officer to ensure that compliance is taking place.

The key to adequate and successful enforcement is providing the code enforcement officer with the proper legal language and definitions within the land use ordinance. The success of any ordinance depends on the ability of the code enforcement officer to enforce the ordinance and support of the code enforcement department by elected officials, or their designee.

Strategies (as outlined on page 5)

1. Designate responsibility for implementing this Section to an appropriate Committee or municipal official. (Select Board) - *Immediate*.*
2. Consider drafting a Land Use Ordinance consistent with the goals and guidelines of this Comprehensive Plan. This draft Ordinance should consider different scaling for proposals, an efficient permitting procedure, protective measures for natural resources, and protective measures for natural and water resources. (Planning Board, Select Board, Town Voters) - *Long-Term* *
3. Amend Subdivision Ordinance and Site Plan Review Ordinance consistent with the goals and guidelines of this Comprehensive Plan. (Planning Board, Select Board, Town Voters) - *Immediate*
4. Provide neighboring communities with information on development, planning initiatives, or changes in land use ordinances, in order to solicit opinions and suggestions, and encourage neighboring communities to do the same. (Town Clerk) - *Ongoing* *
5. Consider the establishment of a fund to assist in critical conservation purchases or stewardship endowments. At a minimum, the key rural assets identified will be made known to conservation organizations to guide their prioritization. (Select Board, Town Voters) – *Immediate*
6. Study and consider the implementation of growth caps to minimize financial burden to the town. (Planning Board, Select Board, Town Voters) - *Immediate*
7. Regularly review and update the existing ordinances to ensure their consistency with state and federal laws, local needs, and the intent of the Comprehensive Plan. (Code Enforcement Officer, Local Plumbing Inspector, Planning Board, Select Board) - *Ongoing*
8. Investigate the development of a land use ordinance for residential and commercial development that requires preservation of open space to offset the effects of the developed land area. (Select Board, Planning Board) – *Ongoing*
9. Encourage landowners to maintain scenic views. (Planning Board) - *Immediate*
10. Review current impact fees and capital investment plans that support land use developments. (Select Board, Code Enforcement Officer) - *Immediate**
11. Provide the Code Enforcement Officer with the tools, training, and support necessary to enforce land use regulations, in accordance with 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 4451. (Select Board) - *Ongoing**
12. Track new developments in the community by type and location. (Code Enforcement Officer) - *Ongoing**
13. Consider ways of using future capital investments into designated growth and transitional areas. (Select Board) - *Long term*. *
14. Evaluate the implementation of this plan at least every five years. (Select Board) - *Long term**

Appendix A

Maps

Summary

The maps included in Appendix A of this plan show Appleton's roadways, topography, public facilities, soils, critical habitat, water resources, land cover, existing land use, Shoreland Zoning, historic places, and proposed land use. The information used to create these maps has been derived from multiple sources. The maps as provided are for reference and planning purposes only and are not to be construed as legal documents or survey instruments.

All maps found in the Comprehensive Plan can be accessed on the Town of Appleton website.

Beginning with Habits

The Beginning with Habitat program cooperates with state and federal agencies, conservation groups, and regional organization in Maine. As part of the Comprehensive Planning process, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry provided maps to the Town of Appleton that highlights different parts of the area that contain highly valuable habitats and natural resources.

Water Resources and Riparian Habitats:

Wetlands are highly productive areas that are important for many wildlife species, including waterfowl and wading birds, frogs, turtles, snakes, and marine resources. These habitats are easily threatened by nearby developments that can force wildlife species to move to smaller habitats.

Riparian Habitats are transitional zones between open water and wetland habitats and upland habitats. These include riverbanks, shores, and the upland edges of wetlands. The wider the riparian buffers are maintained, the greater the water quality, in-stream habitat, and wildlife corridor benefits will occur; however, they do not guarantee healthy streams and water quality.

The Water Resources and Riparian Habitats map from Beginning with Habitat notes the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), Riparian Habitats, Shellfish Growing Areas, and Shellfish Growing Areas within the boundaries of West Bath. These boundaries and highlighted areas are typically depicted on municipal Shoreland Zoning maps to provide buffer zones and protections for sensitive areas.

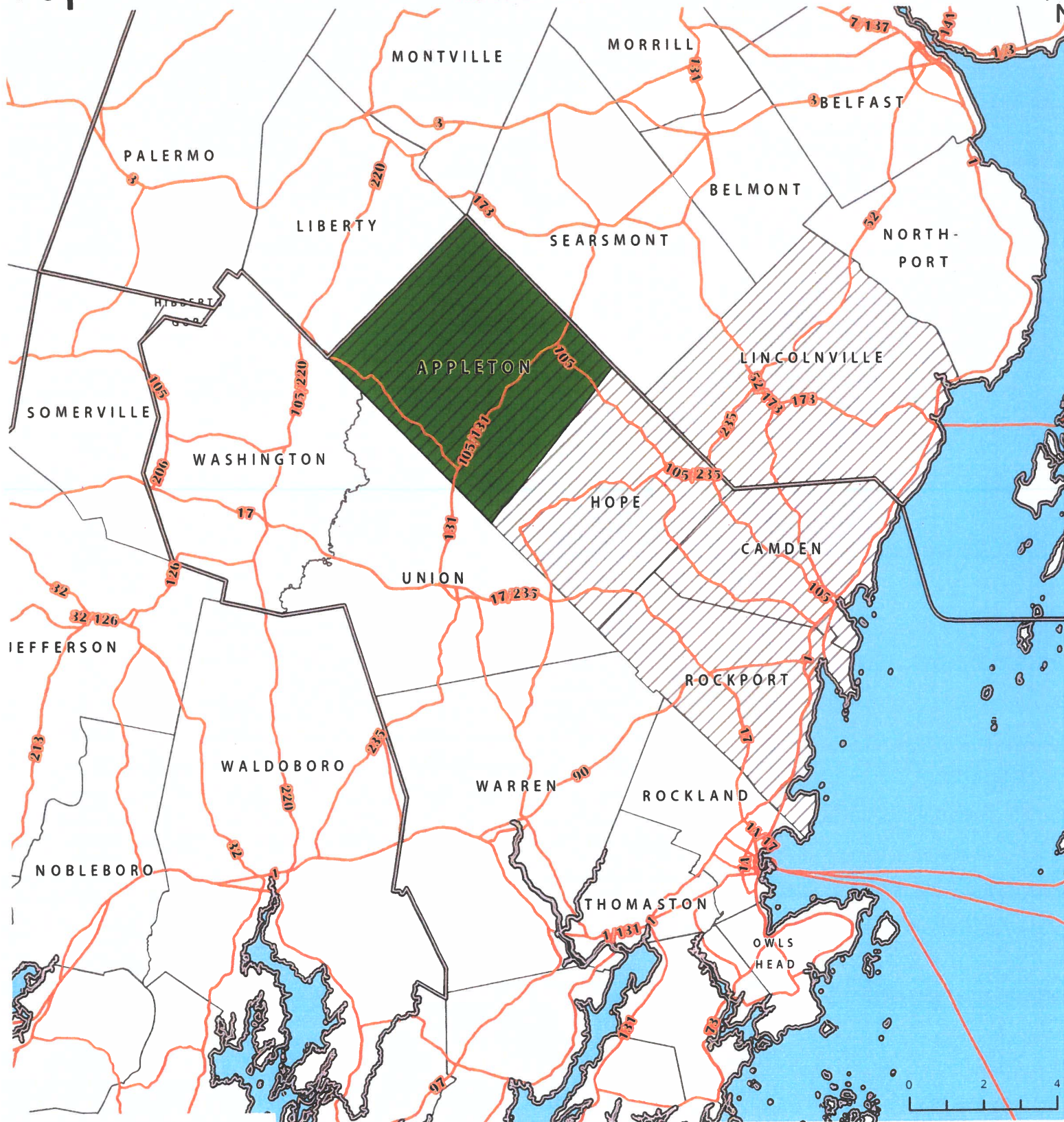
High Value Plant & Animal Habitats:

The "High Value Plant & Animal Habitats" map provided by Beginning with Habitat provides areas that have wildlife that is considered rare, threatened, or endangered; rare or exemplary plants and natural communities; essential wildlife habitats; and significant wildlife habitats for inland waterfowl/ wading birds, deer wintering areas, seabird nesting islands for communities that have applicable areas, tidal waterfowl/ wading birds, and significant vernal pools. This map also depicts Atlantic Salmon Spawning/ Rearing locations.

Map A-1 Location

Map Revised: ##DATE##

DRAFT



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Provided by
Knox County

LEGEND

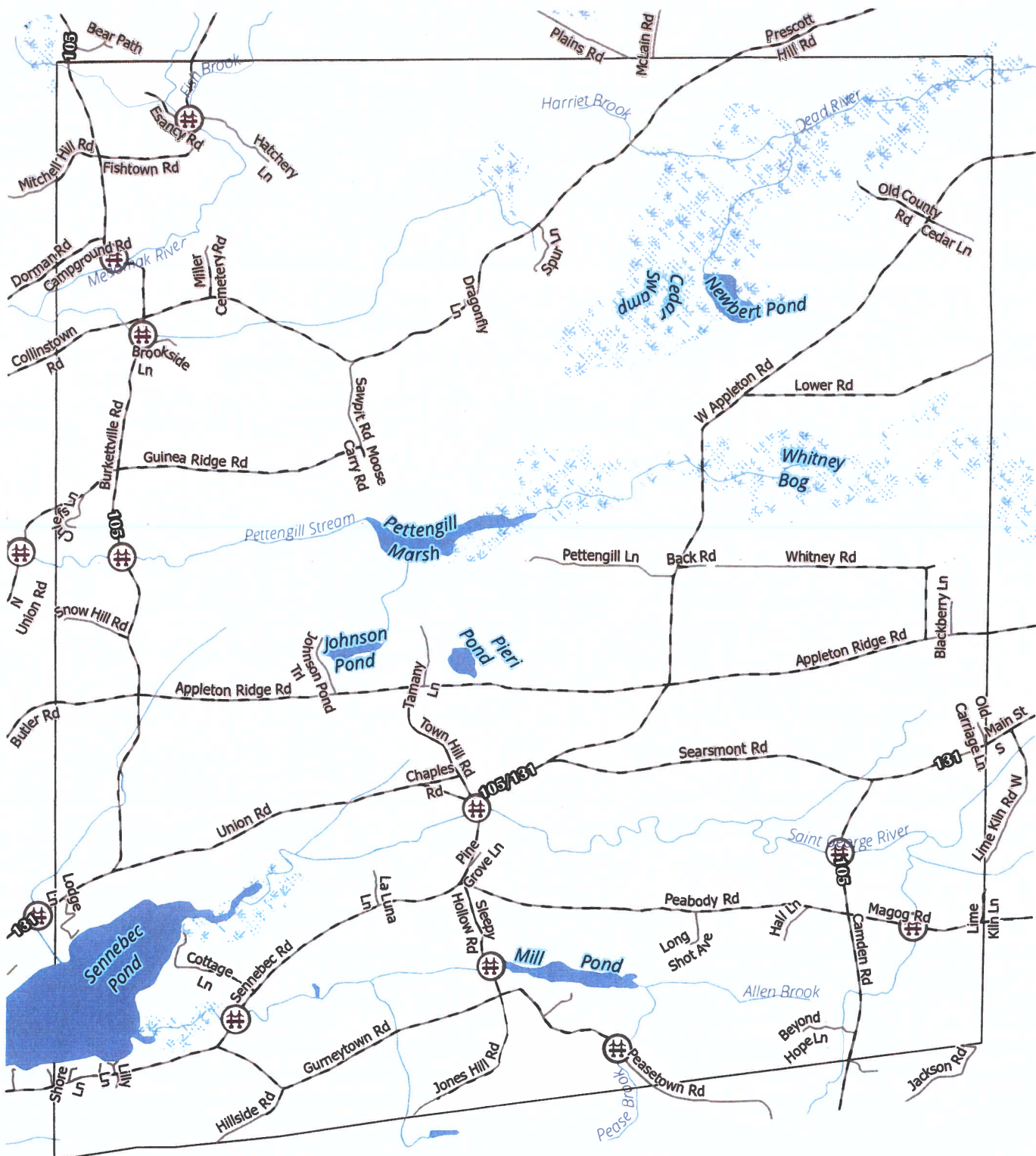
-  5 Town CSD
  County Boundary
-  Town of Appleton
  Public Roads
-  Municipal Boundary



Map A-2 Transportation

Map Revised: ##DATE##

DRAFT



LEGEND

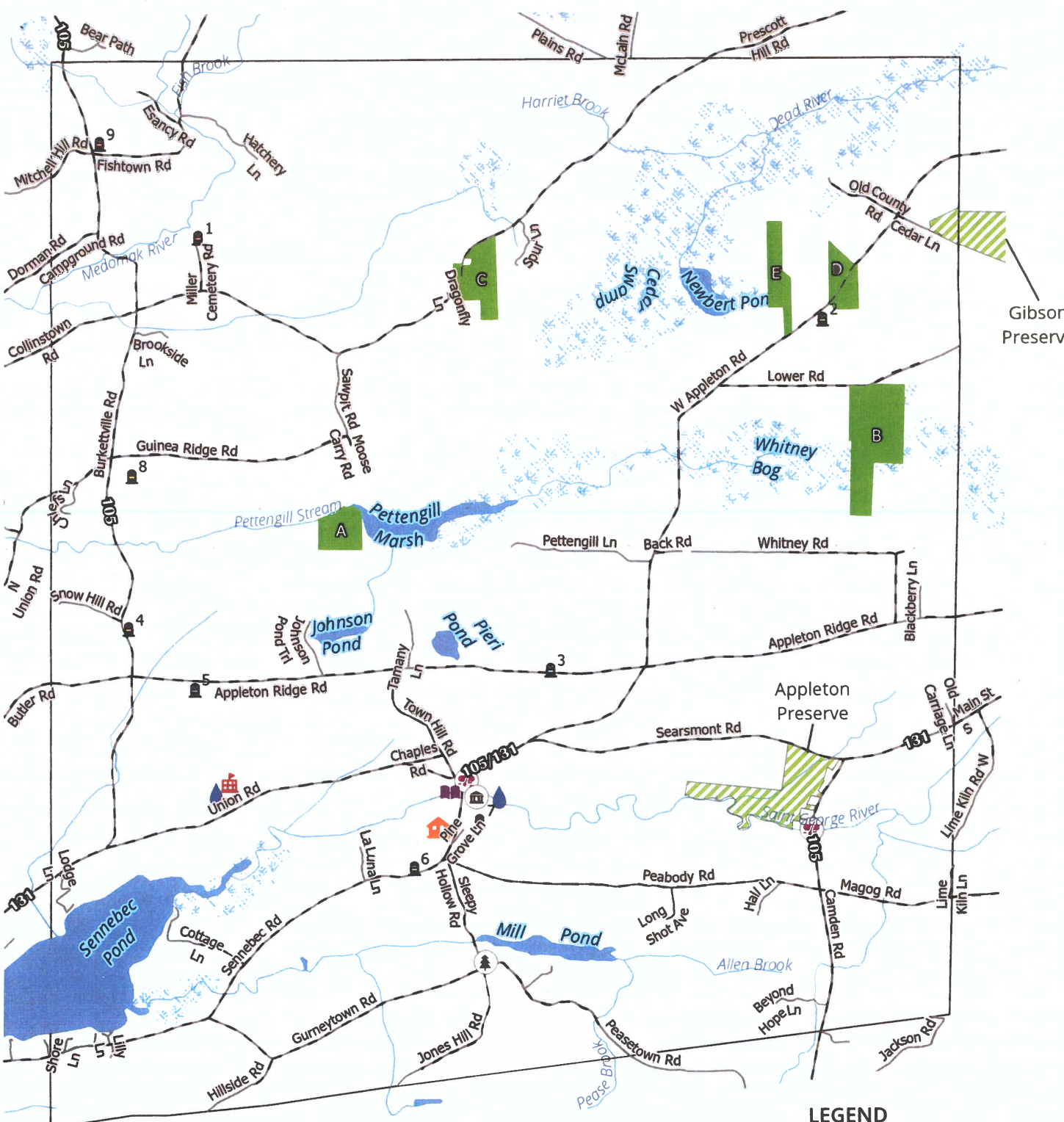
- - Public Roads
- E911 Roads
- Wetland
- Water
- Rivers and St
- Bridges

TOWN OF APPLETON
Comprehensive Plan
Maps

See Table 10-5 in the Transportation section for more information

Map A-3 Public Facilities

Map Revised: ##DATE## **DRAFT**



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Public Facilities

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Appleton Town Hall & Fire Station | Boat Launch (hand carry) |
| School | Town Well |
| Appleton Library | Gushee Family House |
| Town Forests | Getchell Family Park |
| A - Herb Collamore Farm | D - Grover McLaughlin Lot |
| B - Pert Lot & Fred Collins Farm | E - Mid-Coast Properties Lot |
| C - Fred Lamont Farm & Leander Pease Cole Lot | |
| Cemeteries | |
| 1 - Miller Cemetery | 4 - Clark Cemetery |
| 2 - Weymouth Cemetery | 5 - Hart Cemetery |
| 3 - Sprague Cemetery | 6 - Quaker Cemetery |
| | 7 - Pine Grove Cemetery |
| | 8 - Metcalf Cemetery |
| | 9 - Esancy Cemetery |

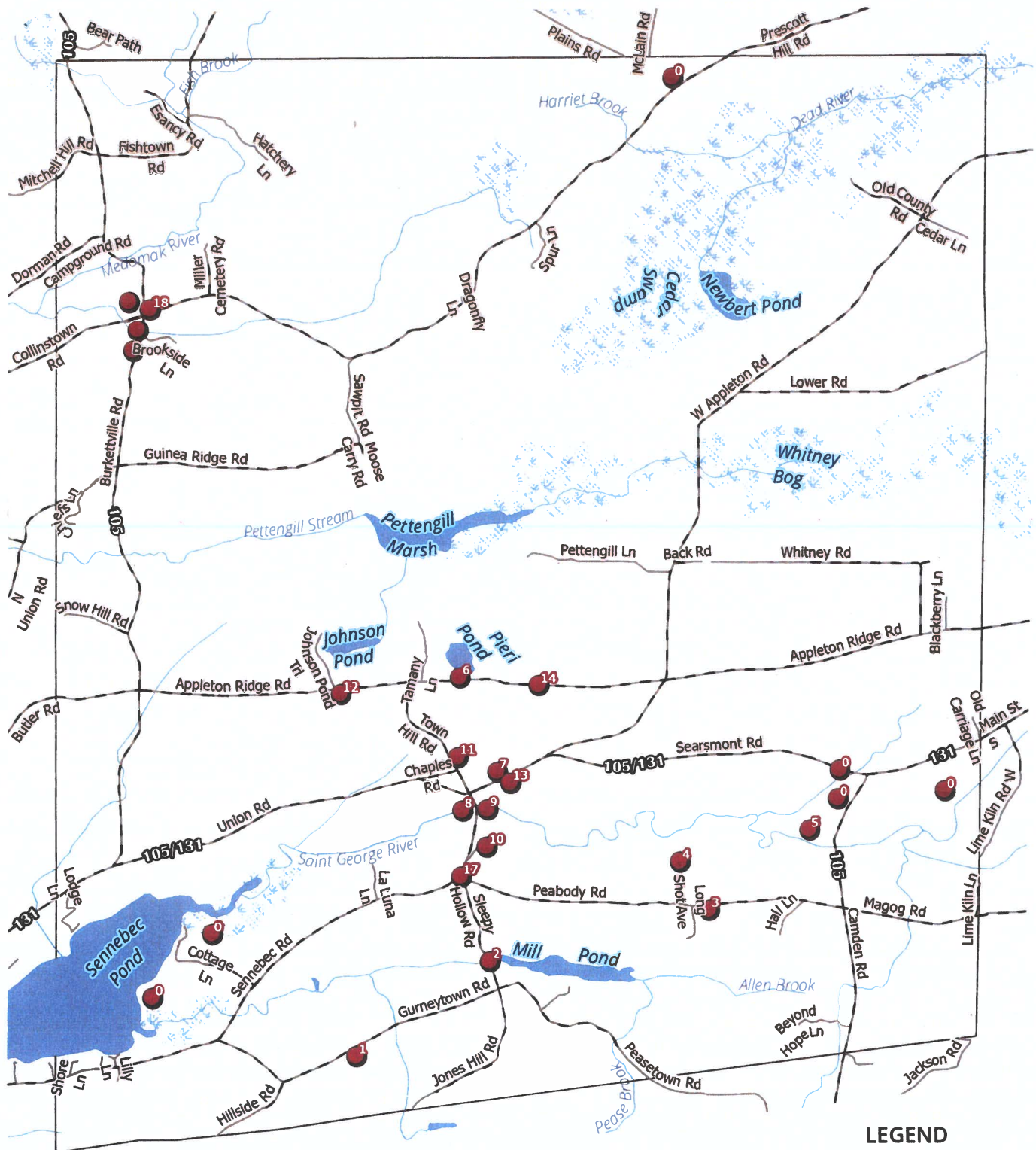
LEGEND

- Public Roads
- E911 Roads
- Rivers and St
- Wetland
- Water

Map A-4 Historic Places

Map Revised: ##DATE##

DRAFT



LEGEND

● Historic Places

-- Public Roads — E911 Roads

▨ Wetland ● Water — Rivers and St

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 - Appleton Mining & Smelting Co. | 8 - Appleton Library | 15 - Medomak Valley Grange |
| 2 Sherman's Saw & Stave Mill | 9 - The Former Appleton Village School | 16 - The Former Burkettville Store |
| 3 - John Hall's Lime Kiln | 10 - Meeting House | 17 - Gushee's Corner Vertans' Memorial Tablet & Flag |
| 4 - Lime Quarry | 11 - Town House | 18 - Burkettville Memorial Stone |
| 5 - St. George River Canal | 12 - Oakes Mansion | 19 - Burkettville School |
| 6 - Cattle Pound | 13 - Odd Fellow Hall | |
| 7 - Appleton Baptist Church | 14 - First Town Hall | |

DRAFT



- Areas with 25% or greater slope

Pixel size of the percent slope grid is 5 square meters.



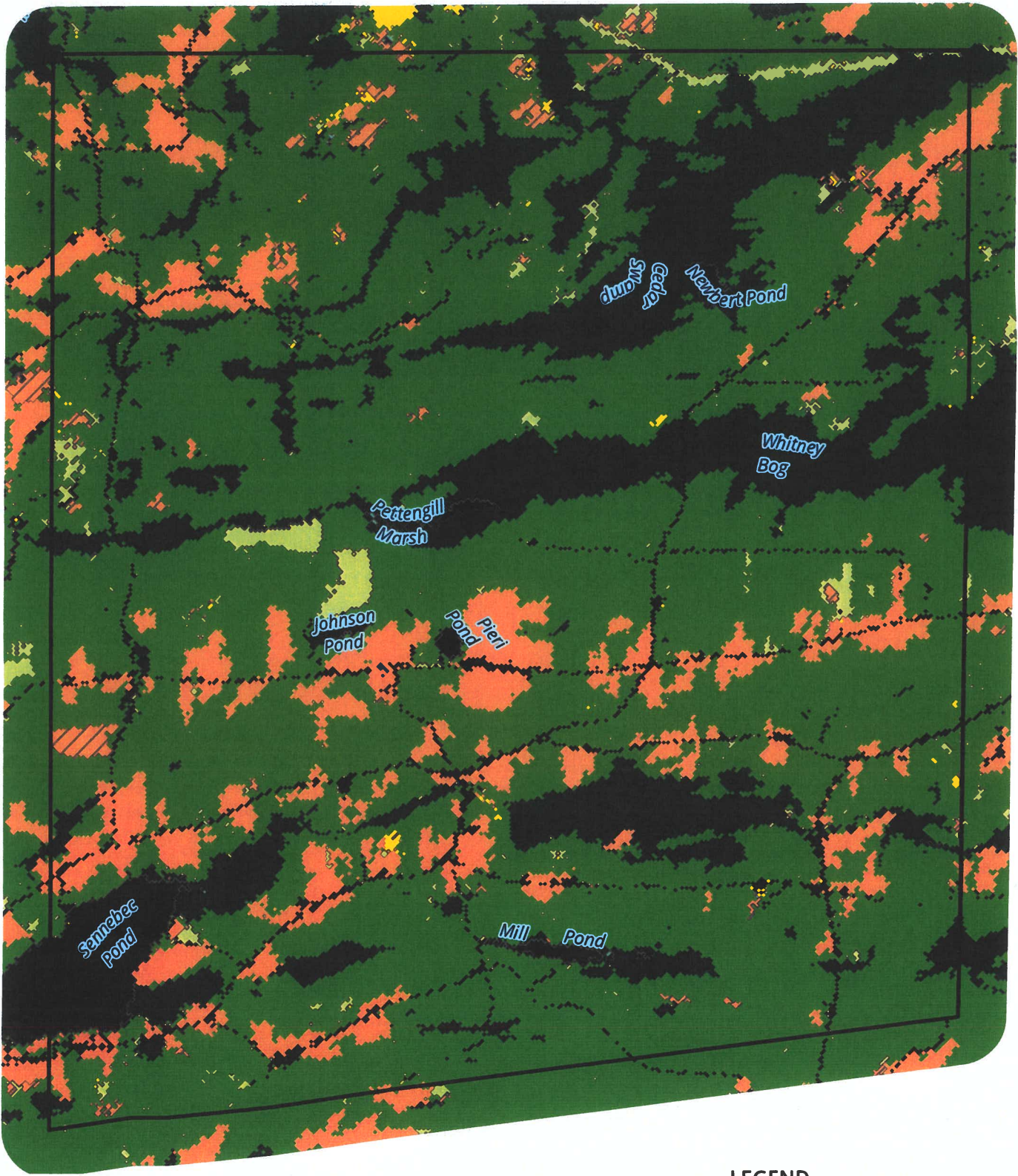
TOWN OF APPLETON
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Map B-2 Land Cover

Map Revised: ##DATE##

DRAFT



LEGEND

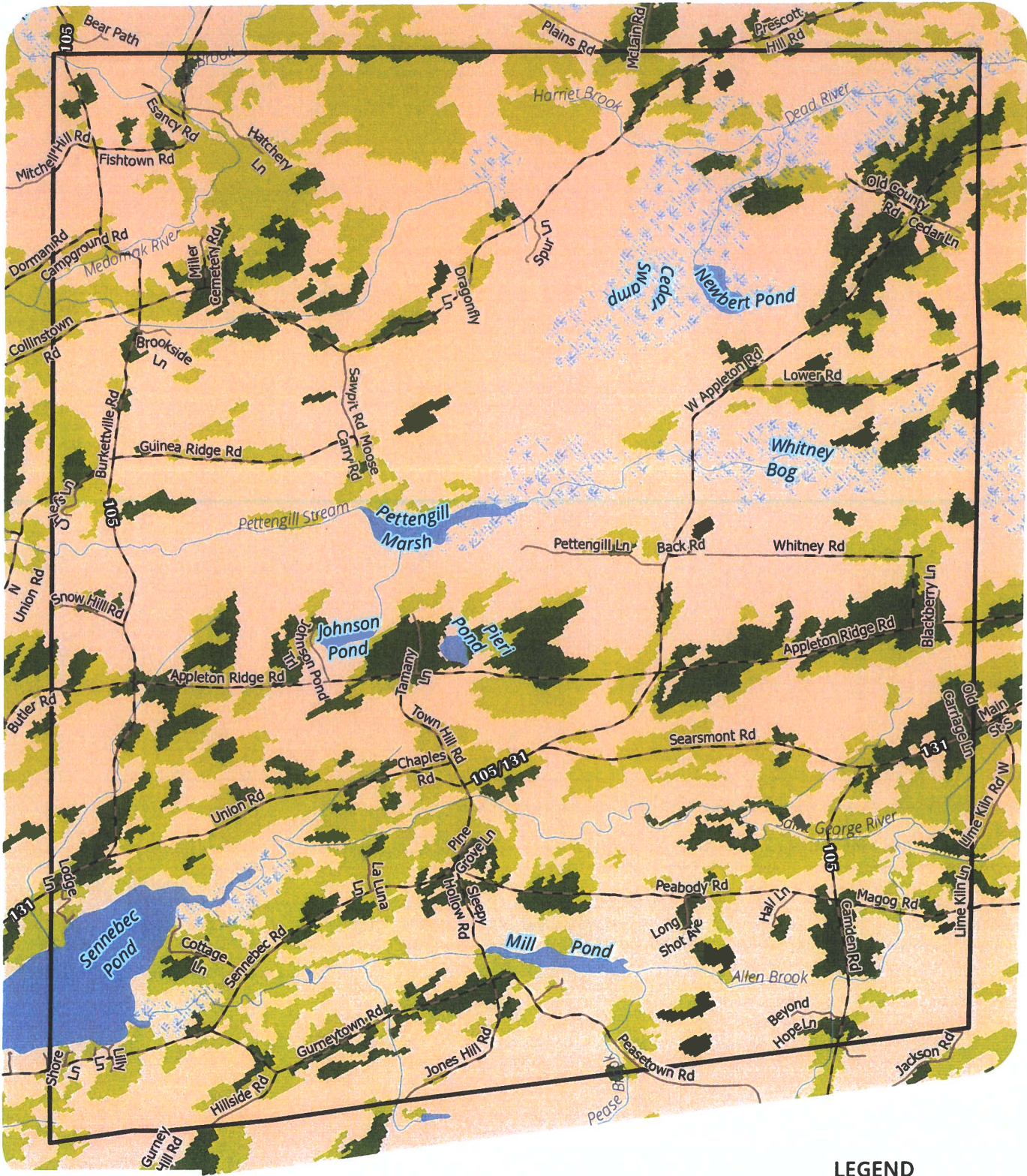
C-CAP Land Cover (2016)

Developed	Barren Land	Agriculture	Grassland/Herbace
Scrub/Shrub	Forest	Wetlands	Unconsolidated Sh
		Open Water	Palustrine Aquatic I

Map B-3 Farmland Soils

Map Revised: ##DATE##

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LEGEND

-- Public Roads — E911 Roads

Wetland Water Rivers and Streams

Soil Classification

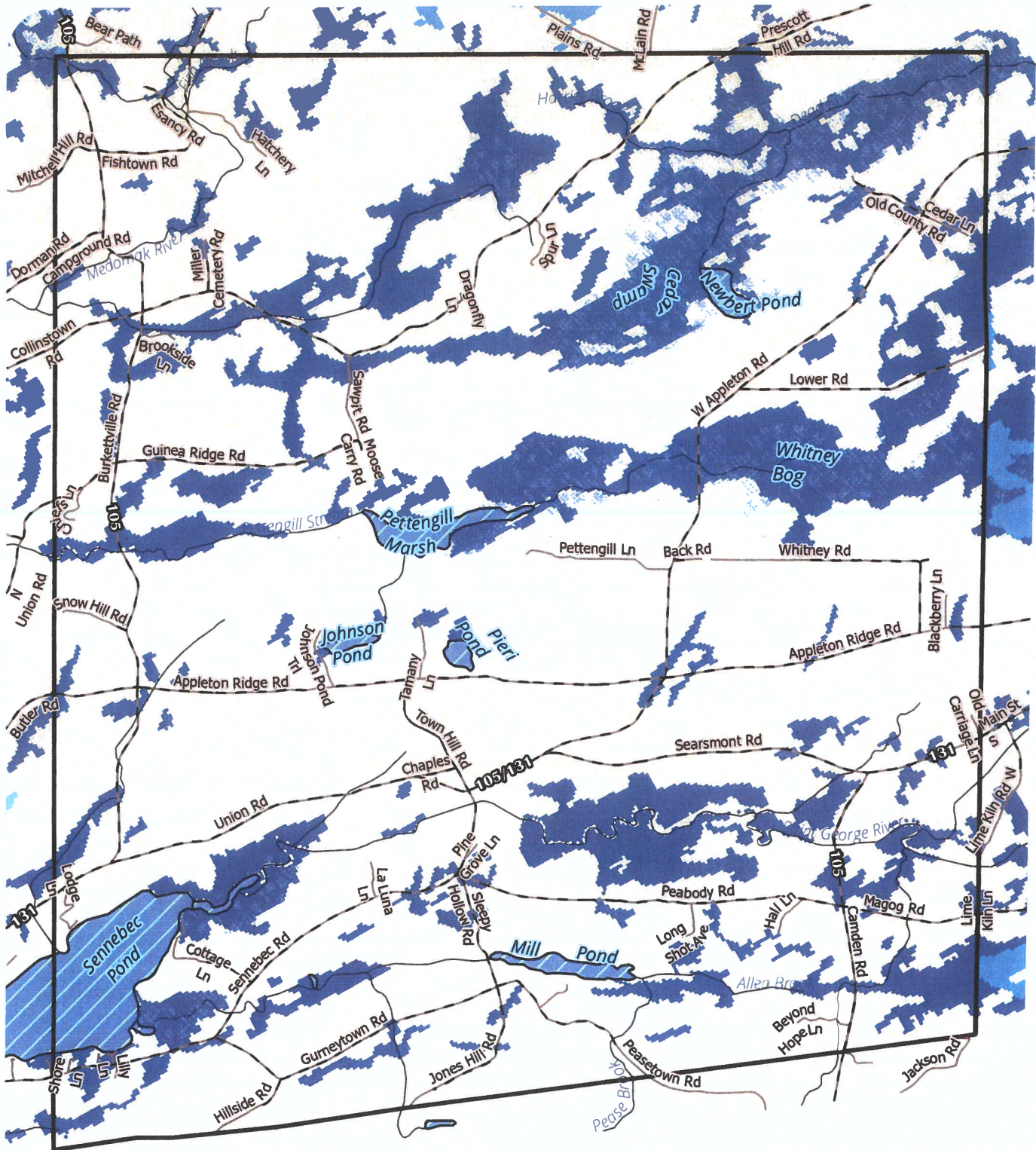
- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Not Prime Farmland

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Map B-4 Hydric Soils

Map Revised: ##DATE##

DRAFT



LEGEND

-- Public Roads — E911 Roads

Wetland Water Rivers and Str

Soil Classification

- Not Hydric
- Partially Hydric (1 - 25%)
- Mostly Hydric (51 - 75%)
- Mostly Hydric (76 - 95%)

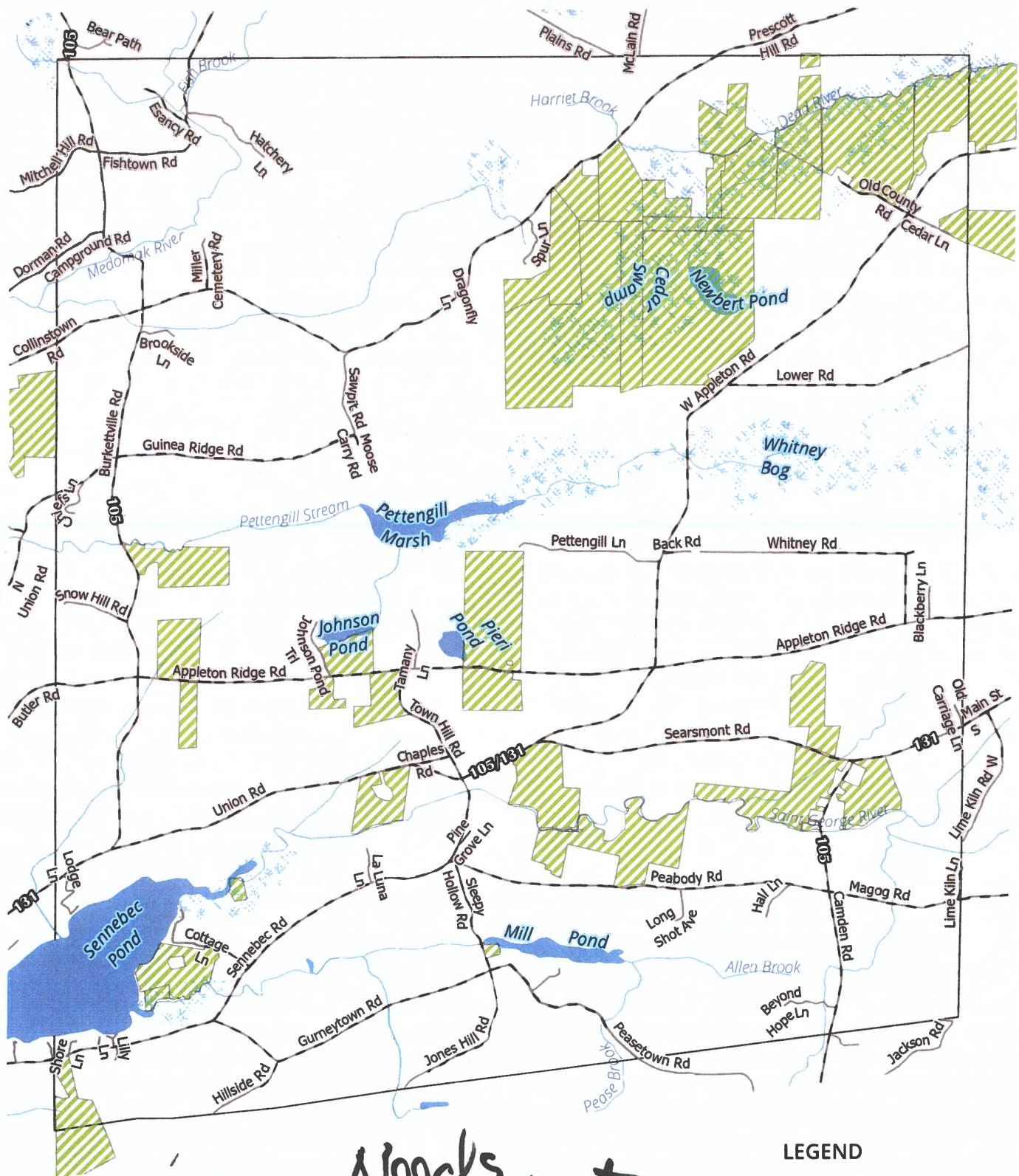
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Environmental Management Agency, GIS Department

Map B-6 Conserved Lands

Map Provided ##DATE##



Needs update

LEGEND

- - Public Roads
- E911 Roads
- Wetland
- Water
- Rivers and Stream

Conserved Land (protected from development for environmental, agricultural or forestry purpose: Public access not implied.)

TOWN OF APPLETON
Comprehensive Plan
Maps

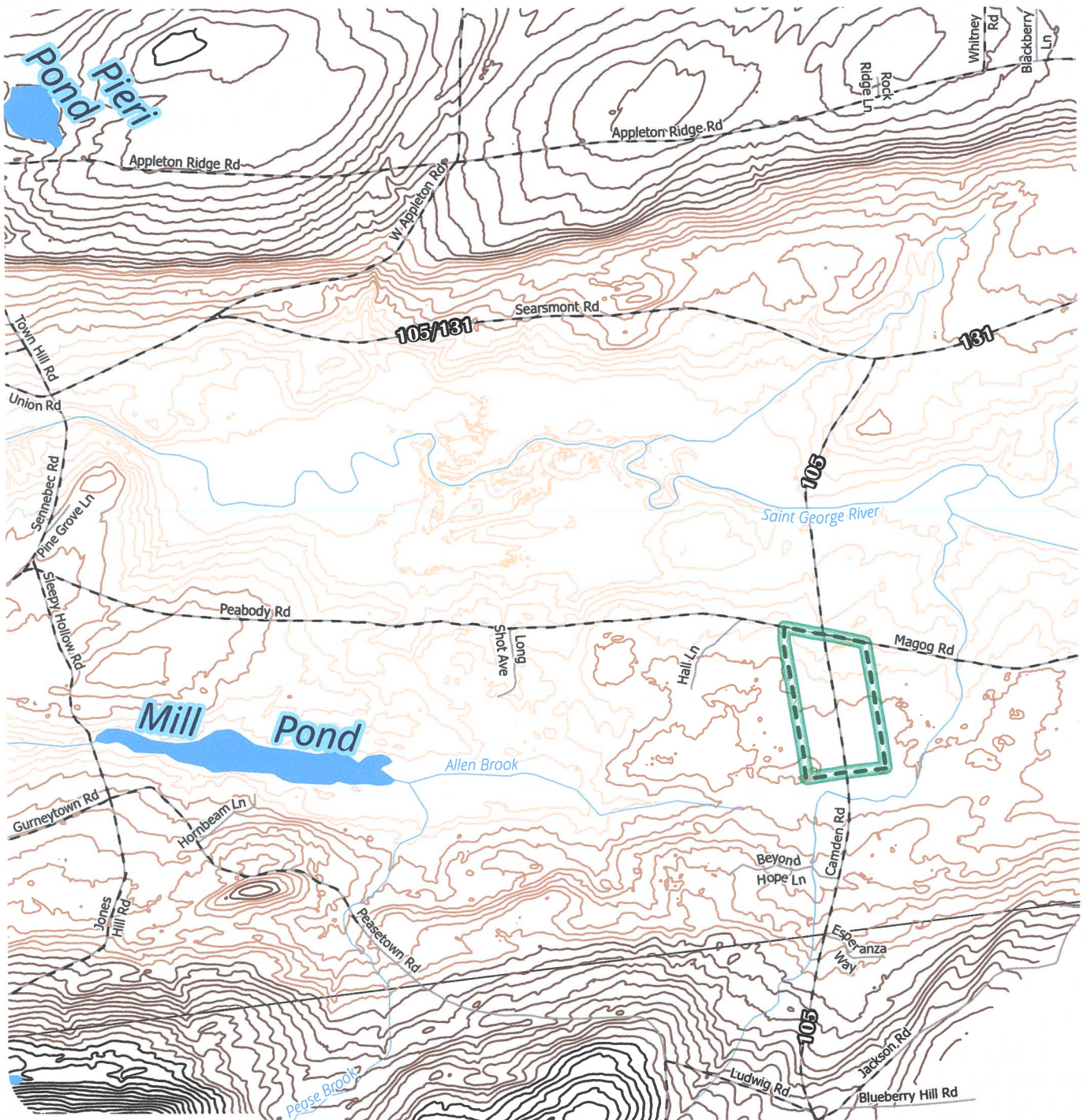
Provided by
Knox County

Revised maps Oct 23 sidQuachua

Map D-1 Proposed Growth Area

Map Revised: ##DATE##

DRAFT - September 2023



Data Sources: Maine Office of GIS, Maine Dept. of Transportation, US EPA Office of Water/US Geological Survey (through esri Living Atlas), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/US Geological Survey & Town of Appleton

TOWN OF APPLETON
Comprehensive Plan
Maps

Provided by
Knox County
Emergency Management Agency GIS Program
301 Park Street, Rockland, ME 04841
207.594.5155



0 1,500 3,000 Feet

LEGEND



Proposed Growth Area

Contour Elevation (FEET)

- 100 - 220
- 220.1 - 380
- 380.1 - 620
- 620.1 - 980

- - - Public Roads

— E911 Roads

— Rivers and Streams

Wetland

Water

See PAGE 8 for Map Disclaimer

APPENDIX B

SURVEY RESULTS

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey Results

In all, 182 residents responded to calls to complete a survey to assist in planning for Appleton's infrastructure. The survey responses were collected via paper and online. All paper responses were then added to residents' online answers, resulting in 182 responses.

Residents were alerted to the survey via posters, postcards mailed to all residences, print and online media articles, and via the town website and town office. The window to complete the survey exceeded three months. Surveys were collected at the

Appleton Town Office, Appleton Library, Burketville General Store, and the West Appleton Country Club. A tabulation of results and comments are found herein.

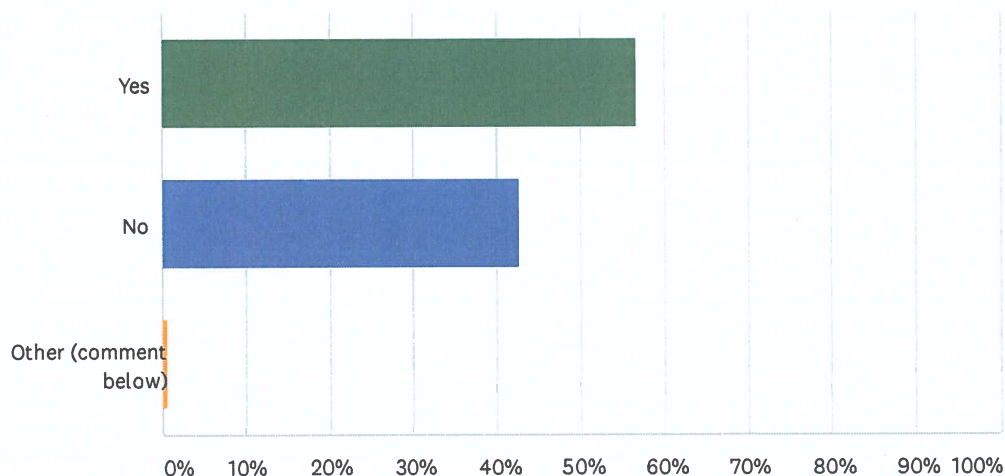
Comments have been printed as received.

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

13	I don't have any personal experience with the performance of the fire department, but it seemed to arrive on the scene very quickly and do good work at the nearby Rockledge Farm fire on the Peabody Rd.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
14	there is concern about slow response capability	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
15	I don't have any experience with this	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
16	As long as all the firefighters show up sober	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
17	More training would be great.	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
18	could use more staff and updated equipment	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
19	I don't think that fire could get to me if I needed them.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
20	need more volunteers	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
21	Don't know. Appreciate the volunteers tho.	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
22	No on duty people at fire station means they will almost always arrive too late to be of any use saving a structure.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
23	my house would be burned down before they could respond....	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
24	Aging equipment, lack of daytime manpower	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
25	Although I have never used the service, and dont know much about it.	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
26	I'm not sure	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
27	They have a hard time retaining newer volunteers because of a couple of bad eggs on the team.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM

Q2. Is the town service of road maintenance adequate?

Answered: 178 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	56.74%	101
No	42.70%	76
Other (comment below)	0.56%	1
TOTAL		178

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Is there a rotating schedule for less traveled roads maintenance; brush clearing/ditching?	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

24	roads could be a little better maintained. Plowing, sanding and salting could be better as far as starting sooner.	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
25	Many town roads are in need of repair/reconstruction	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
26	Appleton Ridge road is in poor condition from Pitman's corner towards Searsmont., Dirt section towards Searsmont needs to paved	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
27	Driving through deep mud on town road is difficult	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
28	West Appleton Rd. is kind of a mess.	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
29	But I would like to see some lingering potholes addressed.	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
30	Sloppy work	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
31	West Appleton road hasn't been paved in over 5 years and my tires and vehicles cost more as a result.	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
32	Doesn't seem to be a plan that goes out more than a year or two.	2/10/2020 1:30 PM
33	For two months we cannot get out on the Appleton side of Collinstown Road in the spring. You should put crusher dust on this whole road and pack it down. When it does get gravel, no one comes all the way to our place so we still can't get out to the better area.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
34	Adequate yes, but upgrades would be supported.	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
35	Dirt roads need ditching. Culverts need cleaning. Dirt roads need better foundations in many places. The list goes on.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
36	The holes along the side of the roads are a danger	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
37	Sanding is not sufficient in storms. I cross over the town line to Union on my commute, and it seems the Union side is better sanded every time.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
38	Pot holes, culverts, and break down lanes are not kept up in a timely manner and have caused lots of wear and tear on our vehicles	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
39	Pot holes are not repaired in a reasonable amount of time.	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
40	The roads are a challenge financialy for the town and for road commisioners time	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
41	Dirt roads are terrible	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
42	Don't really know. Compared to what?	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
43	Dirt roads need to be posted for weight!	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
44	Roads have no solid base and the cracks and potholes are NEVER properly repaired. AND the new asphalt topping that is being put down is way too thin to be of any lasting use.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
45	Snow removal and pot hole repair could be better.	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
46	one way bridge and very very rough road through Pettengill Stream is dangerous.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
47	Many need retaring and tar in general. My road is close to impassable every spring	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
48	The roads are terrible, compared with Union.	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
49	I have owned property in three different towns in the MidCoast and Appleton has by far the worst road maintenance.	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
50	After waiting several months my Road is still pouring water down my driveway and causing damage to buildings. This issue is still not resolved	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
51	Town Hill Rd needs upgrades to ditches & culverts. Tree trimming is also needed.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
52	Some pot holes and cracked roads, but that is to expexted	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
53	Most of the time!	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
54	Jacob has the proper equipment and the man power to keep things in order.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
55	My dirt road gets really bad in the spring and needs more maintenance I literally got stuck frame deep last year	1/25/2020 3:32 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

7	The dirt end of Collinstown is not taken care of adequately and some storms hours afterwards or no sand at all, at the very least not ever the entire length of the road. Sometimes it's sanded only in specific areas.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
8	See above	4/6/2020 8:02 AM
9	It is better than it was several years ago.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
10	Cant plow our section of ridge road between appleton and searsmont many times due to mud and ruts.	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
11	Varies...this year there wasn't much snow. They tend to leave a lot behind, resulting in several inches of slush, and ruts. The Union seems to do better.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
12	Snow plowing and sanding is great. People are out often and at early hours to ensure that there is no inconvenience.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
13	Amazing!	3/20/2020 2:16 PM
14	However, Earlier Sunday AM plowing on 105 would be helpful. I n	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
15	See above comment. ARC's plowing and sanding of my road have been timely and thorough.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
16	Plowing, sanding and salting could be better as far a starting sooner.	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
17	It's ok but mailboxes get destroyed.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
18	We often have an inch of slush when 131 just south of Appleton town line is clear.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
19	not on the side roads	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
20	Hardly any sand here!	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
21	I've always felt that we could do better in snow removal	2/7/2020 11:11 AM
22	Thanks	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
23	Possibly relax the efforts	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
24	There is a reason it is so easy to tell when you are crossing the town lines into Union and Washington.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
25	I think they do a very good job!!	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
26	Sometimes it is adequate; maybe a town public works would be better.	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
27	Snow removal has drastically improved this year.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
28	Plowing does seem to be Timely, but the contractors vehicle seem under sized at times. The road quality also prevents easy plowing.	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
29	Sanding is frequently inadequate on main roads	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
30	Always get the nib done nicely and early	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
31	mostly thought you can clearly see the line between Union and Appleton. Union does a better job.	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
32	Please look to Canada though for how they treat roads. We need to get away from salt and calcium chloride.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
33	been great past few years	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q4. Is the level of police protection adequate?

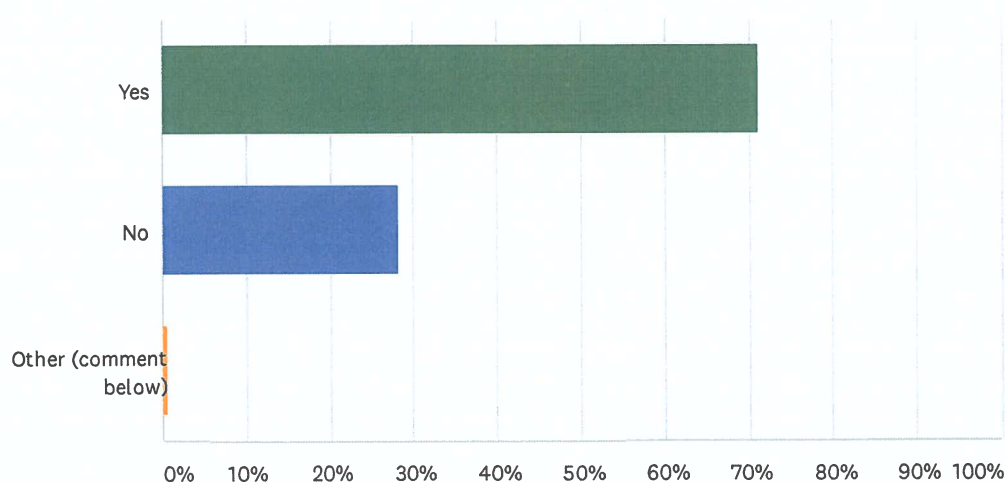
Answered: 172 Skipped: 10

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

13	Appleton is a small town, I am surprised by how many sheriff's and state patrol cars I see.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
14	the sherriff is a long way off, although we rarely need him....	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
15	Know County Sheriffs Deputies are awesome!	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
16	I do not know much about any troubles.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
17	I don't know. Doesn't the Knox County Sheriff's department still handle our police needs?	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
18	No experience, can't say	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
19	It's not noticeable or very present.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
20	Does Appleton have police?	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
21	speeding within the current reduced speed zone is at an epidemic level	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
22	I guess so, I have not needed them.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
23	When seconds count, the police are several minutes away.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
24	We never see them; lots of people go speeding down 105.	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
25	takes too long for sheriff to arrive	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
26	Less is better	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
27	What police? The ONLY time I have EVER seen a police vehicle on the road we live on is when WE called them.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
28	Never seen is good!	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
29	Had one experience with Sherhiff, verh professional	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
30	We have no reason to believe otherwise, although have never need them.	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
31	Knox County S/O should have more of a presence in all these local towns.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
32	I've only noticed occasional sheriff patrol, usually as a speed monitor in town center.	1/25/2020 3:31 PM

Q5. Is the level of health services adequate?

Answered: 156 Skipped: 26



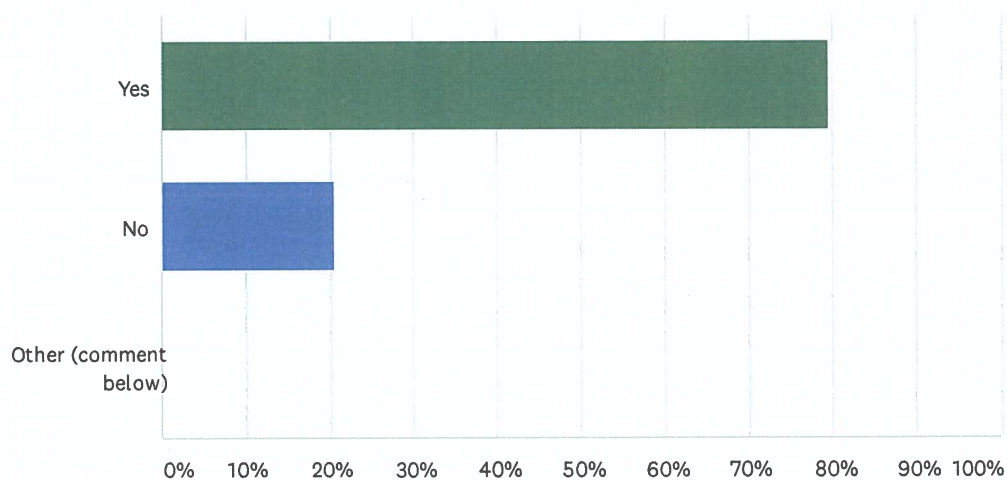
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	71.15%	111
No	28.21%	44
Other (comment below)	0.64%	1
TOTAL		156

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

32	We need a better form of public transportation for getting to medical appointments.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
33	nonexistant	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
34	there are none	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
35	There's health services?	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
36	Why is the town duplicating state and county services?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
37	There is none	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
38	I am not sure what is available.	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
39	Are there even health services nearby?	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
40	Have no idea.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
41	What are the health services?	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
42	I didn't know that we had any health services	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
43	Unaware of any health services available	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
44	Healthcare in thia country is a joke.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
45	Is there any such thing in Appleton? I don't expect the town to do this.	1/25/2020 3:31 PM
46	A local urgent care is lacking in Appleton and the surrounding area.	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
47	what health services?	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q6. Are emergency medical services adequate?

Answered: 165 Skipped: 17



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	79.39%	131
No	20.61%	34
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		165

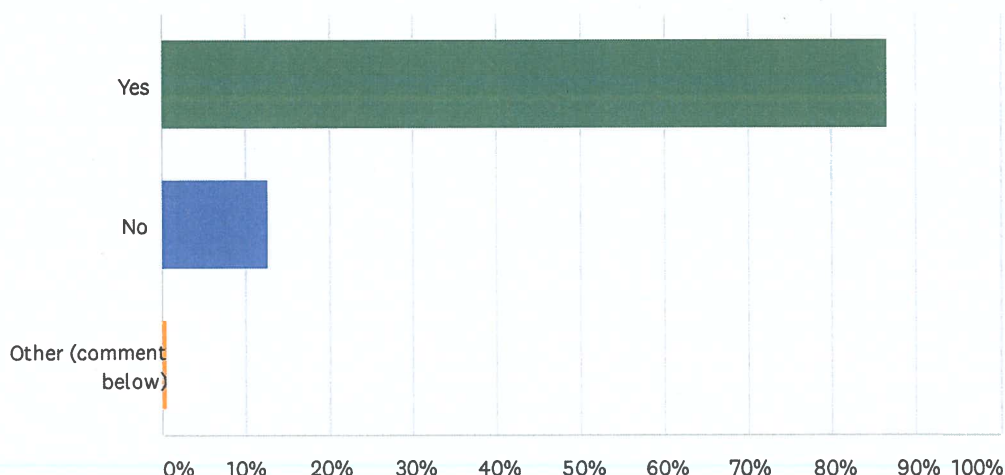
#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

33	not sure	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
34	It takes 30 minutes to get an ambulance.	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
35	long delay	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q7. Are local school systems adequate?

Answered: 173 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	86.71%	150
No	12.72%	22
Other (comment below)	0.58%	1
TOTAL		173

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Cost per student seems high. 3 million for 150 students seems excessive.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Add Comment Here

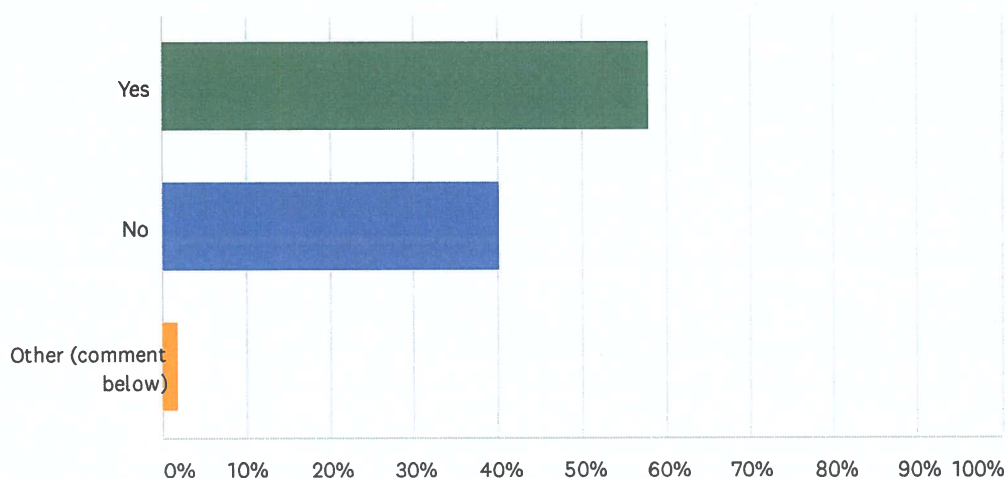
Answered: 39 Skipped: 143

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	As far as I know	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	not sure	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
3	not sure	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
4	It would benefit the town to join with other schools to expand curriculum and disperse costs over a wider area, like the CSD model.	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
5	need more arts and language - maybe school consolidation with hope	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
6	If we spend money on anything it should be teachers pay and the school. A quality school will attract more families.	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
7	Need for tightening of school budget more creative sharing of services w/ in administrative union. Should consider real cost of consolidation vs. maintaining virtually "private" school. Concept w/ out adequate state funding. Maybe should consider cost of state operation of school vs. town operation similar to Somerville.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Q8. Are town recreational facilities adequate?

Answered: 162 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	58.02%	94
No	40.12%	65
Other (comment below)	1.85%	3
TOTAL		162

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Our whole town is a recreational area.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
2	Pretty nonexistent. Swimming spot would be nice.	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
3	Access to Sennebec pond	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 51 Skipped: 131

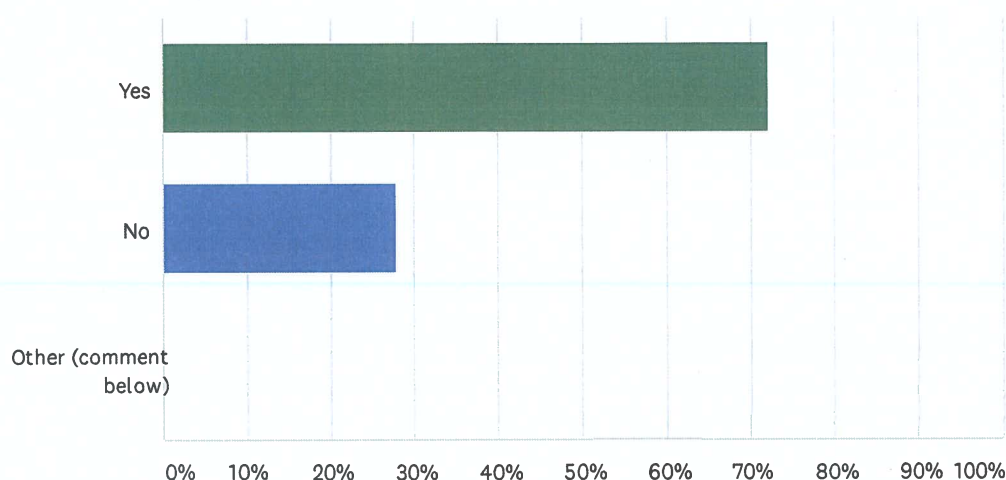
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Unable to answer, lacking knowledge of same	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	we need town access to Sennebec Pond for swimming and Kayaking	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
3	we need town access to Sennebec Pond for swimming and Kayaking	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
4	Appleton residents deserve a swimming area as well as access to freshwater boating.	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
5	do we have a swimming hole? tennis courts	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
6	too bad the ball field + team are no more	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
7	Could use more trails	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
8	Swimming area needed	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
9	unknown	5/3/2020 8:23 PM
10	Should schools join consolidation with other communities, present facility could be converted to town hall, rec center, leased spaces perhaps	5/3/2020 3:55 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

46	Should allow atv clubs to work with snowmobile clubs to create atv trail system	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
47	I believe children between 1st and 8th grade need more after school activities available to them, especially ones parent's are not able to bring them to.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
48	What facilities? I am not aware of any	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
49	Although I have never used the facilities	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
50	Not sure what there is	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
51	what town facilities?	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q9. Is the service of solid waste disposal adequate?

Answered: 162 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	72.22%	117
No	27.78%	45
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		162

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Add Comment Here

Answered: 49 Skipped: 133

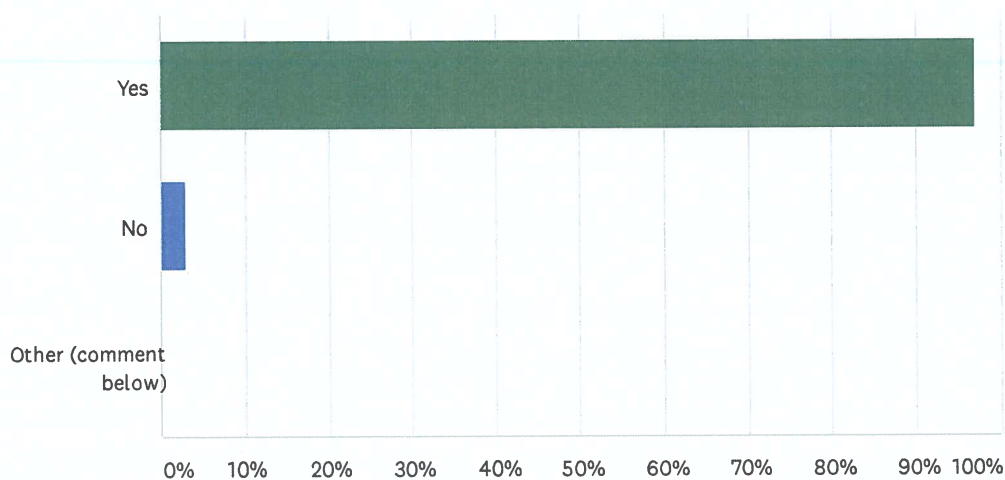
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	would be great if open on Sunday as well	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
2	use a dumpster	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
3	more recycling	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
4	with competition in this area getting more competitive we as a town should cost / benefit private use	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
5	dump is part of country living	5/3/2020 9:59 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

40	Don't understand question - we travel to Belfast transfer station.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
41	Days open are a problem	1/29/2020 6:28 AM
42	Tri Country should contact with Eco Maine, or another service that recycles plastics. The items they no longer accept at TriCounty is unacceptable	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
43	Does not apply. Most in town have private sewer as far as I know	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
44	lack of battery recycling. No large scale brush (stump dump) removal	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
45	Collection of hazardous waste should be available more often.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
46	Always helpful	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
47	How about contracting with a curb-side (road-side) weekly garbage hauler? Which we as residents would pay for, NOT with more taxes!!!	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
48	I would like to see more recycling	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
49	Bring back Sundays. Very crowded with just one weekend day	1/25/2020 1:32 PM

Q10. Are services of the town library adequate?

Answered: 177 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	97.18%	172
No	2.82%	5
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		177

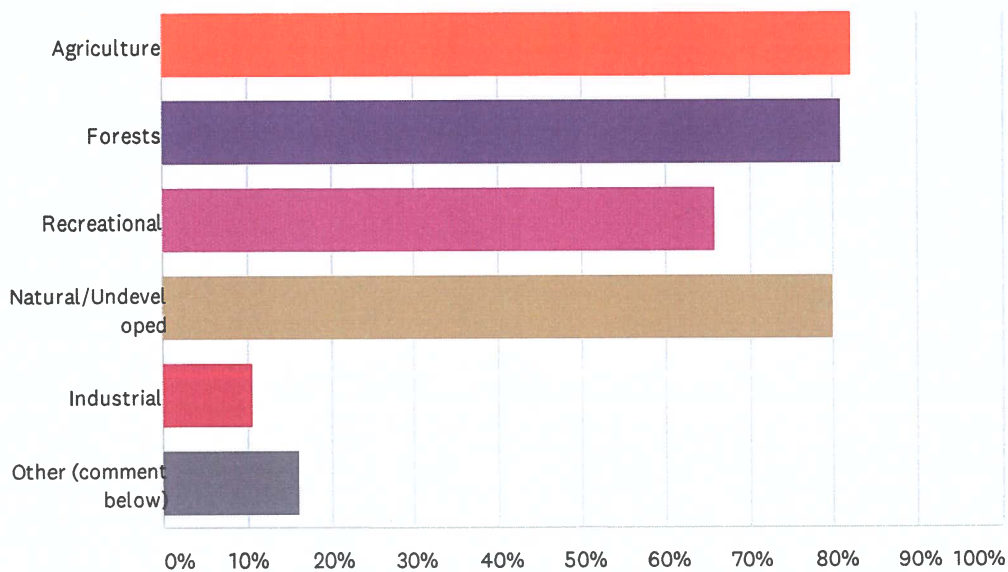
#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Add Comment Here

Answered: 26 Skipped: 156

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	excellent facility and services	5/10/2020 10:40 AM

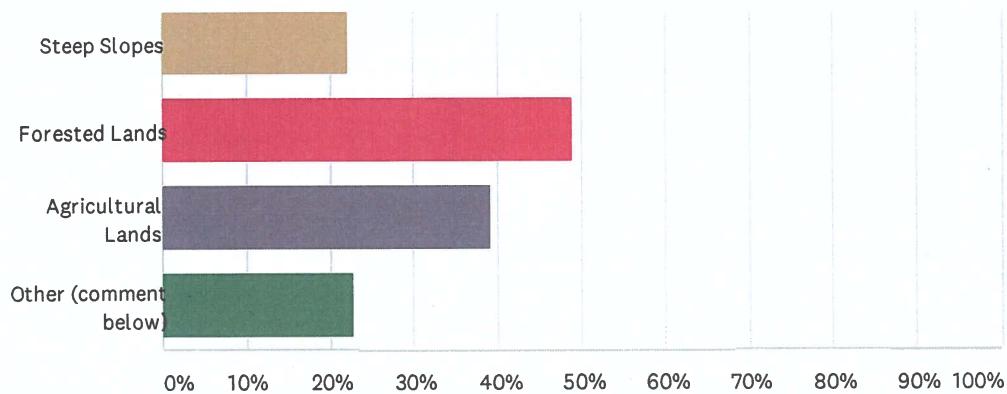
2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Residential single-family homes	78.77%	141
Residential multi-family homes	30.17%	54
Residential mobile homes	23.46%	42
Cluster housing	20.67%	37
Agriculture	82.12%	147
Forests	81.01%	145
Recreational	65.92%	118
Natural/Undeveloped	79.89%	143
Industrial	10.61%	19
Other (comment below)	16.20%	29
Total Respondents: 179		

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Its nice to have a restaurant	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
2	Co-housing like in Belfast	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
3	Duplexes might be best rather than "multi-multi".	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
4	commercial business	5/3/2020 3:09 PM
5	Expand AVS + higher... opps... I attended AVS (in all fairness not all grade levels), hire a few more teachers for our own HIGH SCHOOL! Save \$ in long run instead of sending kids + \$ to Camden. Attach solar + make sun pay for AVS education-make our school "shine" + have other districts pay us to educate their kids. Involve Agricultural learning, hands on--	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
6	As stated before we need tax dollar growth.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
7	Solar farms?	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
8	I love that we have a great restaurant in town! I would patronize and support small businesses in town.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM

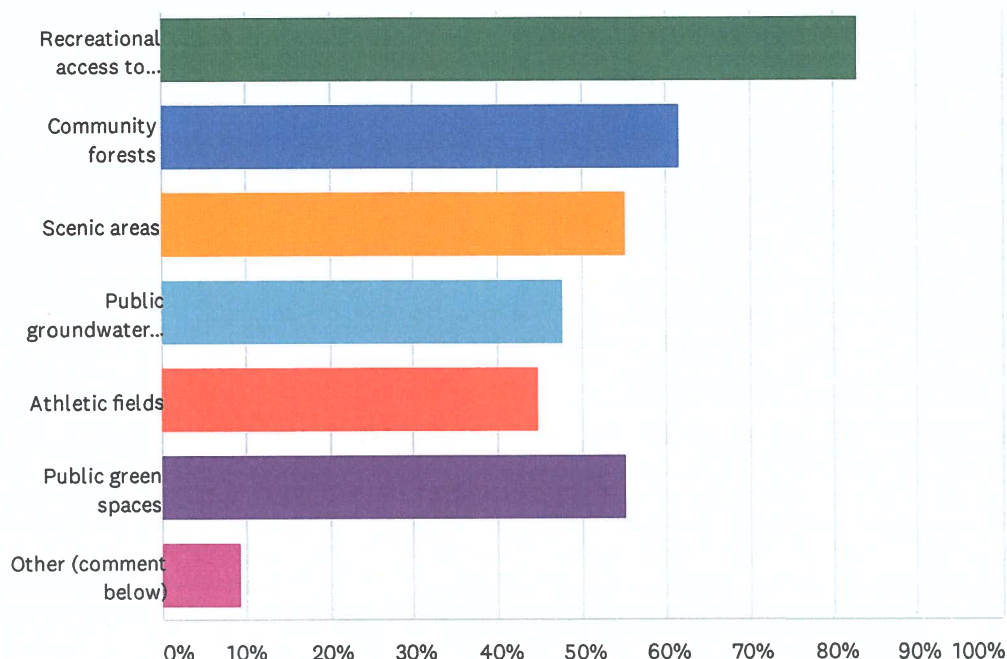
2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Historic Sites	52.94%	81
Natural Resources	51.63%	79
Scenic Views	49.02%	75
Undeveloped Shoreline	28.76%	44
Wildlife Habitat	50.33%	77
Groundwater Resources	32.68%	50
Wetlands	47.71%	73
Steep Slopes	22.22%	34
Forested Lands	49.02%	75
Agricultural Lands	39.22%	60
Other (comment below)	22.88%	35
Total Respondents: 153		

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	need more information	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
2	not enough information about what is or is not protected	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
3	unsure of levels of protection for the above	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
4	unsure of levels of protection for the above	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
5	Appleton needs better protections for scenic views, nighttime light pollution, pesticide and herbicide spraying, and protections for drinking water sources. Tax breaks/credits for organic practices could encourage more blueberry growers to join their peers and go organic.....	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
6	we have 0 rules for spraying chemicals - so people spray wherever and whenever they want - if we as a community are serious about preserving our natural resources - We NEED to take greater environmental action to protect the town and us the people	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
7	I would be sad if the Pitman land on the on the down hill side was allowed to grow into forest again. I know harvesting by hand is not profitable. Could it be burned anyway?	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
8	not sure what the town does.	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
9	We are on the cusps of BIG CHANGE, we need to develop a plan all of these resources with possible zoning, ordinances and whatever (grants) we can. We have a beautiful valley-exceptionally so! Gentrification is already changing our scenic resources in negative ways.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Recreational access to freshwater	82.94%	141
Community forests	61.76%	105
Scenic areas	55.29%	94
Public groundwater sources	47.65%	81
Athletic fields	44.71%	76
Public green spaces	55.29%	94
Other (comment below)	9.41%	16
Total Respondents: 170		

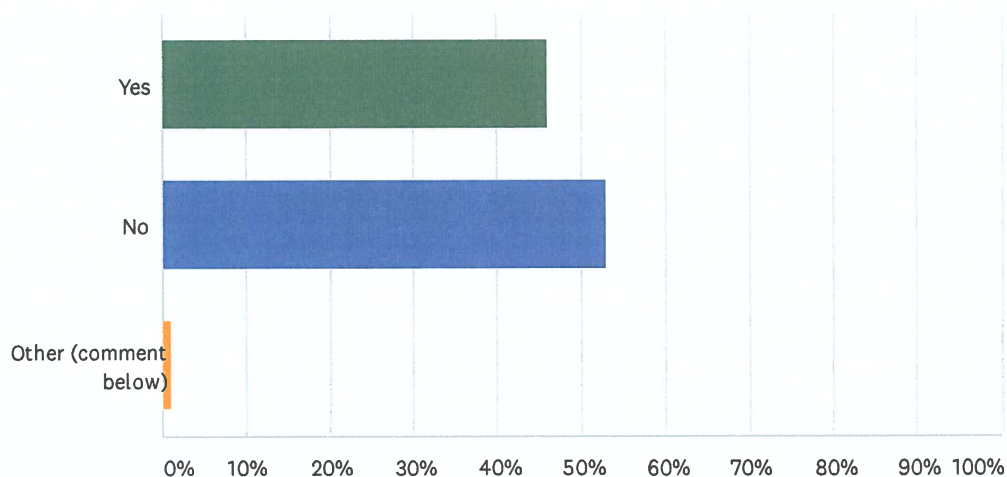
#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Former "Mink shore", Pieri Pond area, with accepted uses determined by town ordinance or whatever is required, Perhaps "Appleton Resident only" w permit stickers. Any town- opened land and adjacent to any water resources should be retained. Land containing natural aquifers should be owned and protected.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
2	Do not retain any land for public use	5/3/2020 2:59 PM
3	...And label... so public knows that they have legal access to these sites.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
4	the town should only own property for necessary building (school, town office, fire station, library, historical building, an access to water supplies for fire trucks, any property the town owns should be used for taxable purposes. Sell to a home owner. or business.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
5	I'd love a small beach like Liberty has on the lake, but there really isn't a likely spot on our end of Sennebec.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
6	Town access to Sennebec pond	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
7	Town Common or open field for events.	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
8	None	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
9	access on Appleton ridge	3/3/2020 7:32 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	noise	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
2	Residential Junk yard / trash build up	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
3	The fewer ordinances the better. There are plenty of laws in place to deal with all the above.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
4	Town should keep track of all these and more. Have regs to keep all sites clean - no dumps on private lands, junk around houses.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
5	None	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
6	To follow basic Maine Building codes and that all contractors should be bonded and vetted to prevent "castle builders" type of event from occurring	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
7	Less regulations.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
8	The state protects many of these however some, such as unregulated waste and pesticide herbicide use are not adequately covered by state law.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
9	We have such a nice place to live it's worth protecting.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
10	town should never regulate anyone's land but the towns land	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
11	Location of all new building, residential, commercial, etc. Otherwise known as zoning.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
12	Oversight and standards for large open mining; standards for water use and taking (so Sennebec/St.George River aren't sucked dry); Dark Sky regulations including a ban on 24-hour commercial lighting	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
13	Are these the only choices?	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
14	Only if not already regulated by the state	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
15	we or state haw all above	1/25/2020 1:32 PM
16	The town needs a Land Use Ordinance	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Q15. Should Appleton regulate cannabis production, processing and sales?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



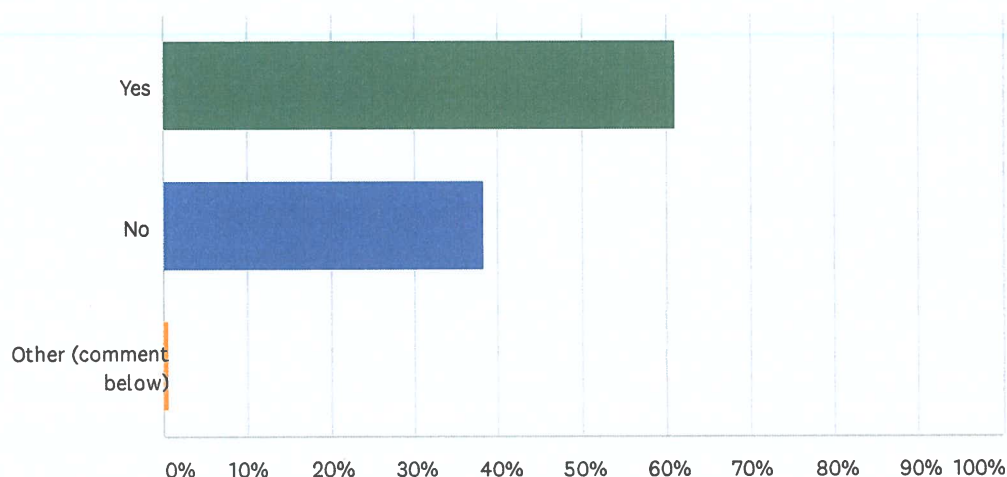
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	46.02%	81
No	52.84%	93
Other (comment below)	1.14%	2
TOTAL		176

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

28	Just lay low on that. Let people be free do do what they want to do on this.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
29	It is a Federal crime to grow/sell marijuana so why would the town want to promote illegal activities?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
30	I am not sure. I would need to know more about implications.	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
31	Make sure it is a good base for Town income and is allocated appropriately.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
32	Is regulation a requirement for production, processing, and sales? If not, no; if yes, then yes	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
33	I believe Appleton should allow it	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
34	Regulate not to prevent but to promote and enable lawful sale of marijuana.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
35	YES!!! OUTLAW it altogether!!!!	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
36	Regulating is fine as long as it's not banned I think people should be able to do what they want with it on there own land	1/25/2020 3:32 PM

Q16. Should Appleton consider zoning to control future growth and development?

Answered: 172 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	61.05%	105
No	38.37%	66
Other (comment below)	0.58%	1
TOTAL		172

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Possibly	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

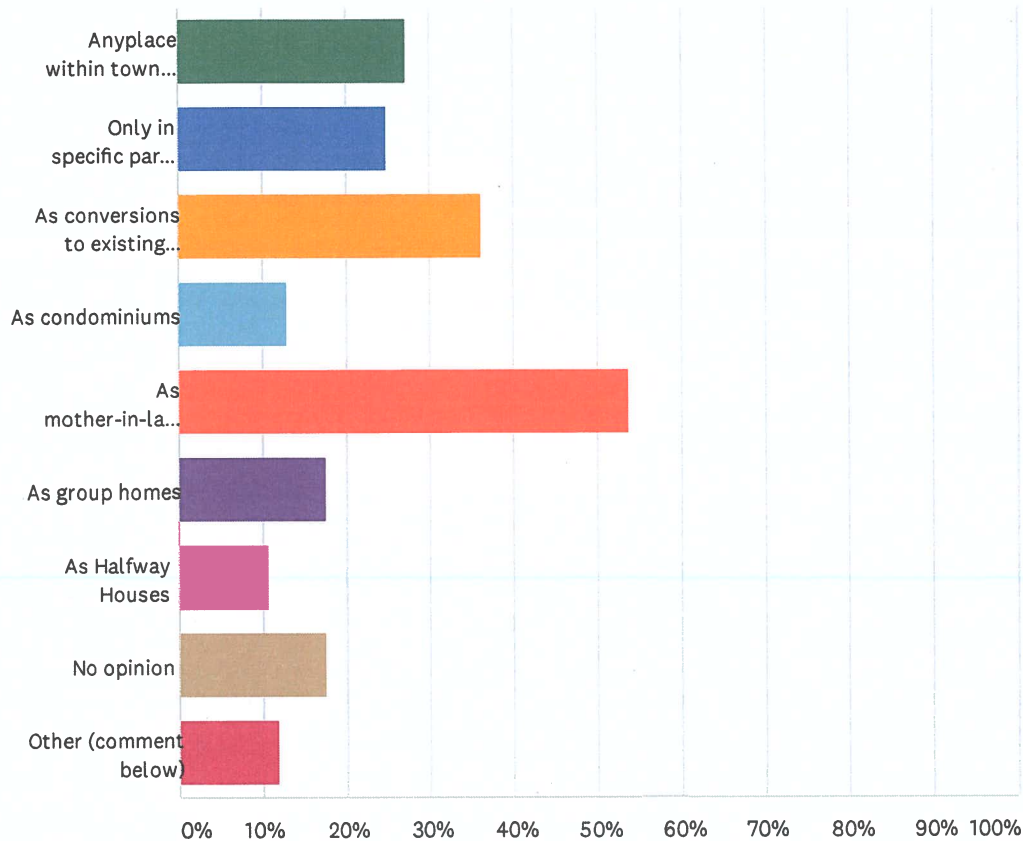
Add Comment Here

Answered: 26 Skipped: 156

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Q17. Check all areas where you believe Appleton should allow multi-family housing.

Answered: 177 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES
Anyplace within town limits		27.12% 48
Only in specific parts of town		24.86% 44
As conversions to existing single-family residences		36.16% 64
As condominiums		12.99% 23
As mother-in-law apartments		53.67% 95
As group homes		17.51% 31
As Halfway Houses		10.73% 19
No opinion		17.51% 31
Other (comment below)		11.86% 21
Total Respondents: 177		

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	no supportive of multihousing	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
2	burketville	5/10/2020 10:40 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	79.78%	142
No	19.10%	34
Other (comment below)	1.12%	2
TOTAL		178

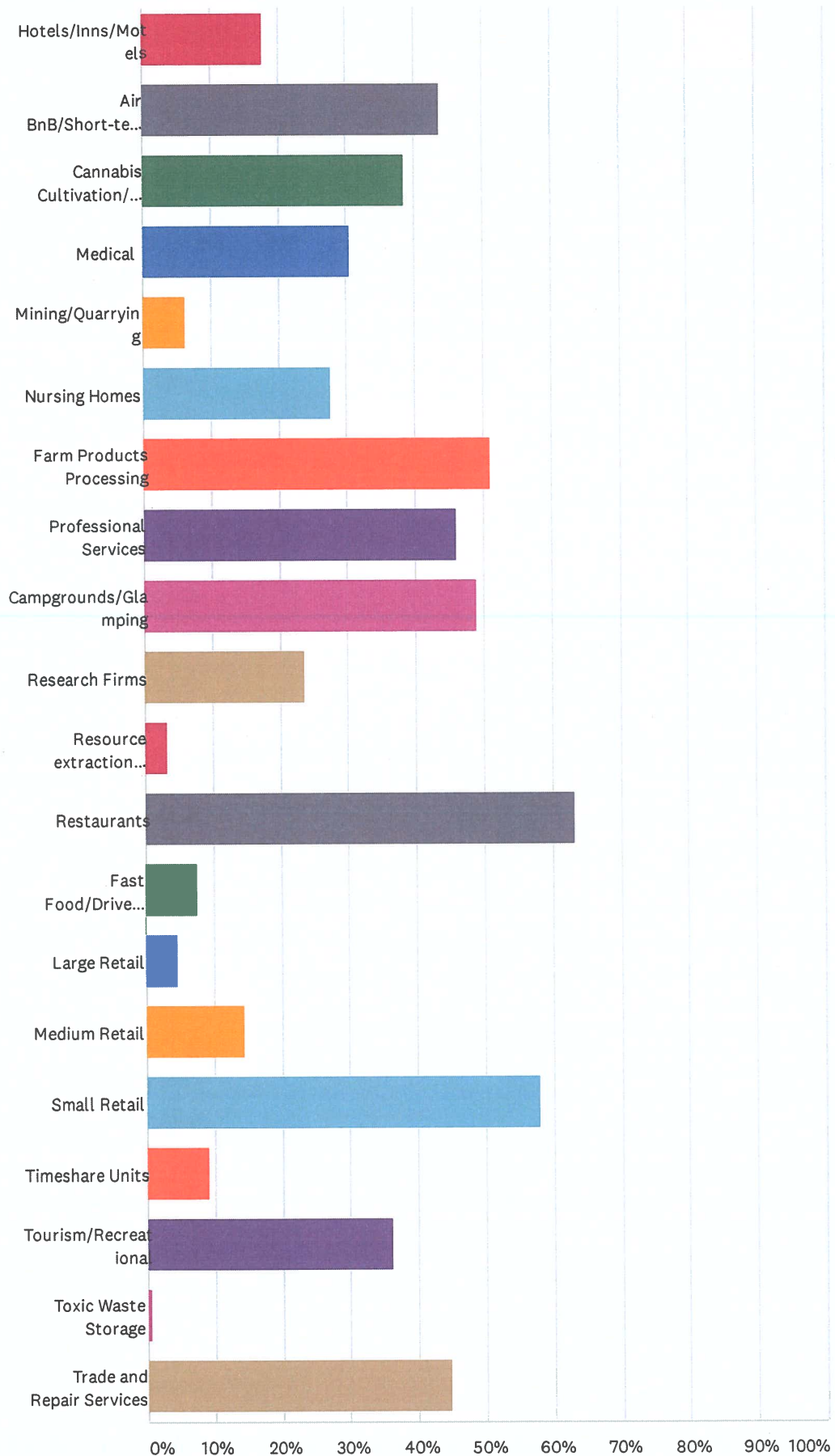
#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	would like to see it a 2 acres	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
2	Limits access to homes.	1/13/2020 12:04 PM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 36 Skipped: 146

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	It should be greater than one acre	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	maybe zoning	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
3	what about farms; retirement home(s)	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
4	To retain the rural character of our community, I would favor a minimum lot size of 2 acres.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
5	Less than 1 acre in parts of town	5/3/2020 2:59 PM
6	Maybe tax cuts could be given to people with more than 1 acre, to encourage people to have homes on more than 1 acre, se we keep that "country feel" of Appleton.m	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
7	Larger 3+ Acres	5/3/2020 1:50 PM
8	I think under certain conditions such as subdivisions , mobile home parks that should be looked at on case to case.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
9	I think it is too big, many towns have moved to smaller lot sizes. Appleton should too.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
10	2 or more	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
11	Although I wouldn't complain if it were 2 acres, but that's too restrictive for lower-income people.	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
12	Lots are narrow and long. Decreasing lot size would drastically increase infrastructure.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
13	Would consider raising it.	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
14	Should be smaller	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
15	Provided that that one acre has adequate geological protection for drinking water on- and off-site.	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
16	I'd actually rather see a minimum of FIVE acres. But this would make land unaffordable for the younger generation and other people who could help keep our town the special place that it is.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
17	Should be 1 1/2 to 2 acres to insure adequate separation from well to septic system (including eventual septic leach field replacement	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
18	Need more residential growth in Appleton. I believe we are currantly land poor. To many exempted tax paying properties	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
19	A one acre lot size is fairly big, in my opinion it should be smaller, perhaps 1/4 acre.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
20	Small lots sizes allow density... and therefore might allow clustering in villages - leaving larger open spaces intact	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
21	Two acres minimum	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
22	Could be smaller, for less sprawl.	2/12/2020 12:07 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Trade and Repair Services	44.83%	78
Storage Facilities	12.07%	21
Wood Processing	38.51%	67
Other (comment below)	10.92%	19
Total Respondents: 174		

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	"small scale"	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
2	No arcades. Private medical practices. Farm products processing if regulated by town. Would not support poultry/meat processing. Favor veg, fruit processing. No more camping, not on Sennebec developed enough already! Depends on what research firms, possible impacts on community resources, safety and environment. Tourism, agro, natural hist, low impact, hiking, canoeing, etc. Storage facilities in existing structures, no "farms" of storage building taking up beautiful open space. We should focus on our community being a quality residential/small business town, retaining the character of a true community, not being "taken over" by outside real estate investors, developers, short term rentals, condos, motels, etc.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
3	Any business that brings in tax dollars and employs people can only be a plus.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
4	Small businesses in existing homes may be more realistic.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
5	In an earlier question, I said that I'd like to see us recycle/reuse plastics. Toward that end, Appleton could "host" a small plant that made new products from those plastics.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
6	It's a free country, anything they want	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
7	All	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
8	Any industry that does not permanently degrade the natural resources of the town should be promoted.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
9	I'd rather pay higher taxes and have fewer industries personally. Keep Appleton the way it is.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
10	On the whole, Union seems like a more central town for services to be located and be successful	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
11	Post Office for mail delivery	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
12	very small retail -	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
13	Let market dec	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
14	No comment	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
15	people from large and small cities love to come to Appleton to GETAWAY and be close to Belfast, Camden, Rockport & Rockland. STAY SMALL WHOLE INCREASING TAX BASE WITH EMPHASIS ON CREATING NATURAL HABITAT.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
16	more cell towers, wireless internet or fiber!	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
17	More businesses are needed in Appleton	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
18	NO to toxic waste storage and water extraction	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
19	Aroma Joe's!	1/25/2020 1:35 PM

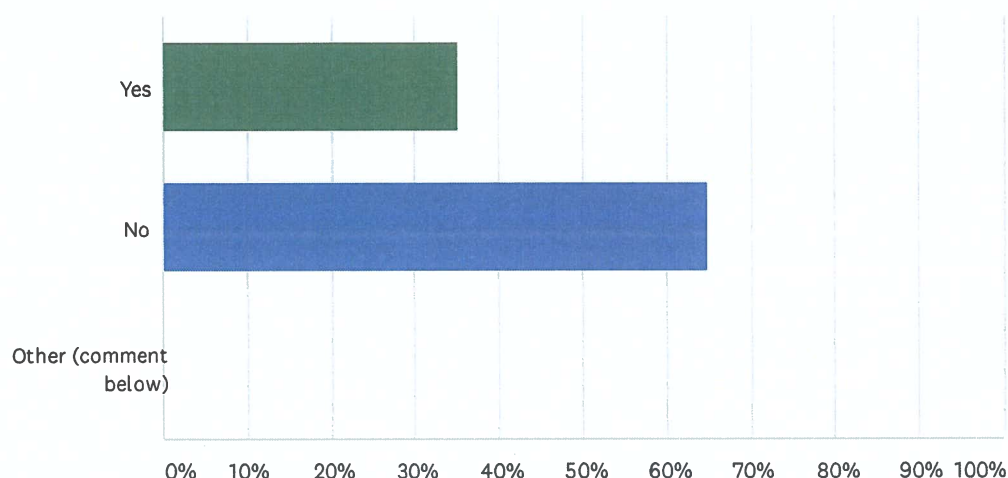
Q20. Should people be allowed to have small businesses in their homes as long as they meet town standards related to traffic safety, environmental and neighborhood impacts?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 2

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Q21. Should Appleton regulate short-term, AirBNB rentals?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	35.23%	62
No	64.77%	114
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		176

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Add Comment Here

Answered: 17 Skipped: 165

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	what is it?	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
2	Definitely! Have seen how these have negatively affected neighborhoods, community and safety, and availability of affordable housing.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
3	If it's someone's own house, its like having a house sitter if they're on vacation or a relative come visit	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
4	Airbnb has been around for a long time without regulation and it hasn't infringed on anyone's property	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
5	I choose to live in a residential where I can get to know neighbors, not next to unknown short term rentals.	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
6	Minimum 30 day rental	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
7	Aren't they already regulated?	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
8	As noted in one of my answers above, I'd prefer to see B&Bs. But more short-term rentals are inevitable, and we need to make sure they don't get out of hand.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

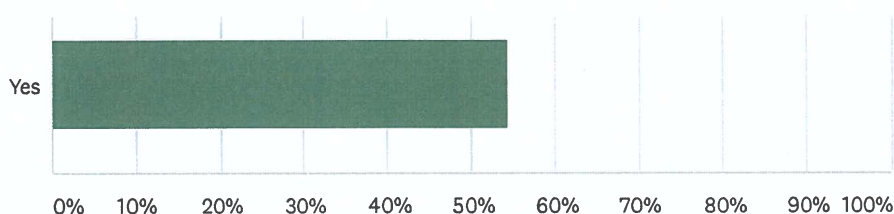
Add Comment Here

Answered: 19 Skipped: 163

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	As long as suitable regulations are in place	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
2	Shed or garage use	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
3	As long as it doesn't adversely affect their neighbors or the towns people.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
4	As long as there is space for building and parking	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
5	Again, it should be encouraged. Not only is it good for the people it is good for the tax base.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
6	Such a person must report all to town office	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
7	With approval of abutters and having regulations regarding building and land maintenance, onsite storage, Trash accumulation, noise levels, hours of operation, Signage and overall visual impact. We have enough trashy places in town.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
8	ABSOLUTELY!!! WHY WOULDN'T YOU PROMOTE SMALL BUSINESS?	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
9	In a garage or small outbuilding.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
10	yes--- like farm stands, etc-- but with size/noise/hours of operation regulations.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
11	Within reason.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
12	Again, what is "small"? What is the nature of the businesses? There are currently a sailmaker, a large-equipment repair, a lavender farm, a restaurant, a horse-riding facility, a landscape artist, a yoga studio, etc. that have separate buildings for their businesses. This sort of thing makes sense. We'd need to set some standards on what is "small"? What sorts of businesses are they? Do they generally add to the livability of our town? Are they single-owner, or leased from a larger corporate entity? For example, could I open a drive-through McDonalds? Or a Dollar Store? Or a small tannery? How would these "small" businesses affect the nature of our town, the traffic, the wildlife and other nearby natural resources?	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
13	However standards should be set on size, neighborhood impact, traffic etc. that said business must meet.	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
14	would need restrictions on size , environmental impact type of business	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
15	Free market should decide this, not some corporate guy who retired here, or trust fund baby-pulease!	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
16	Why not?	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
17	There should be standards, and impact on neighbors considered	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
18	As long as it is not an eyesore to the community, i.e. no neon signs!	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
19	This is how we are making a living here in Appleton.	1/25/2020 4:45 PM

Q23. Should Appleton establish specific areas for commercial development?

Answered: 169 Skipped: 13

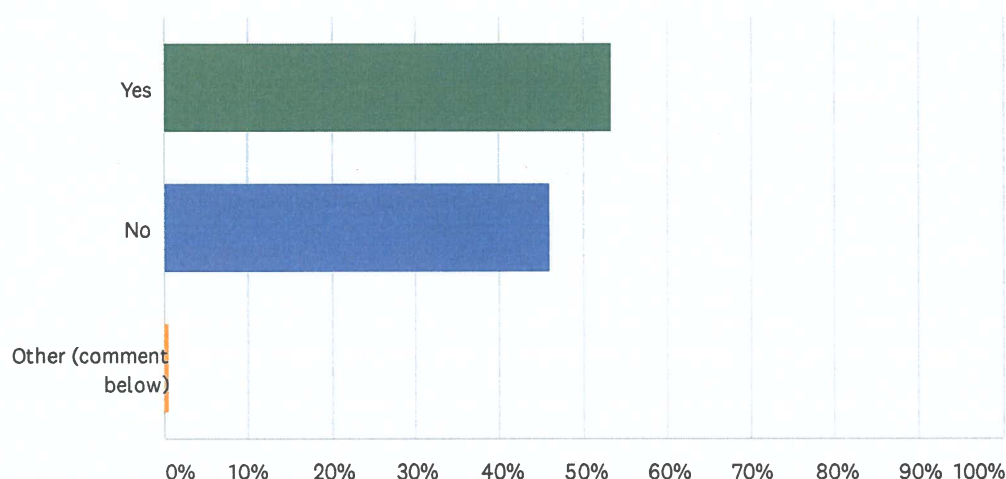


2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

14	Regulation of areas that can be developed for commercial use helps maintain a quiet neighborhood for residential areas and protects undeveloped land.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
15	Not sure where in town something like this would fit without significant impacts on our already terrible roads, building on our best agricultural soils, etc.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
16	Encouraging development of the town center would be wonderful	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
17	away from already residential areas	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
18	If a person wants to have a repair shop or craft shop it is fine.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
19	Are we talking about a strip mall? NO STRIP MALLS. Only a specific area for industrial commercial use - WHICH WE DO NOT NEED!!!! I guess "Commercial Development" needs to be better defined.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
20	Unsure	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
21	Yet not limit those areas to commercial only.	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
22	Maybe--depends on the commerce in question	1/26/2020 11:17 AM

Q24. Would you approve of using local taxes to pave currently unpaved Appleton roads?

Answered: 174 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	53.45%	93
No	45.98%	80
Other (comment below)	0.57%	1
TOTAL		174

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Lets try and fix and maintain the roads that we have.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 41 Skipped: 141

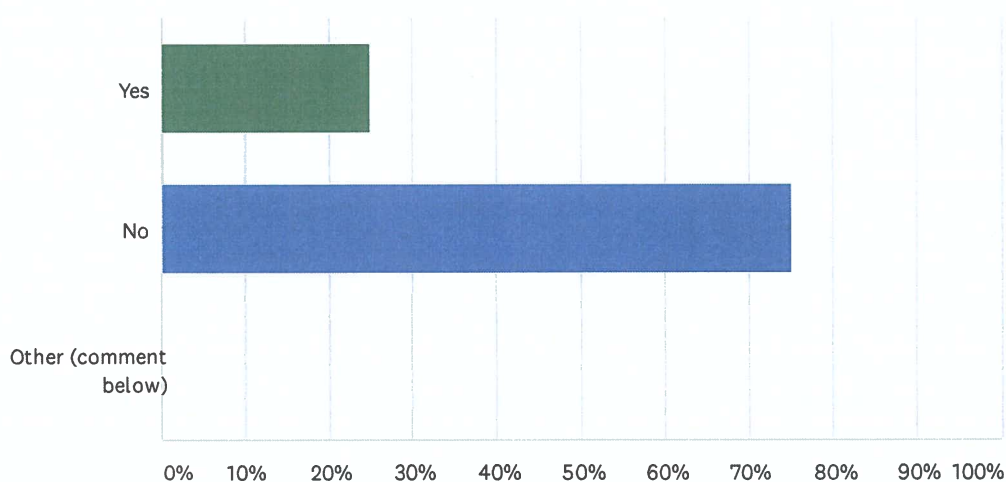
2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

access road maintained as such). Also look at roads that are currently paved but are supported by century-old logs (in one section of town.) Just paving based on the loudest individual voices doesn't take into consideration that our resources are limited, and people largely choose to move here for cheap land or access to a good school district, and a long-term incremental plan is the fairest and sanest way to go. It is true that roads in awful condition still cost us as much, but the cost is shifted to individuals in terms of car repair, alignments, and possibly towing out of mud (well in the old days anyway.) We can't however pave every new road and driveway that people move to or build on, willingly and with knowledge of the road's condition beforehand.

30	No because you can't take care of the ones we have! Take care of the existing ones that are paved then we can talk.	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
31	Only with additional State funding attached	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
32	Gravel roads are beautiful.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
33	Roads already paved are NOT being maintained so why have more to not maintain?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
34	Unless it is a safety issue, or a major nuisance for a significant number of residences, keep it quaint & dirt, but well maintained.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
35	Only if the underlying Road issues are worked on before Paving. The Town of Union seems to have had some success with longer-term Road repair by doing a better quality product	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
36	I strongly oppose paving dirt.	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
37	Within reason	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
38	We could use far better upkeep of the pavement that we already HAVE too...	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
39	Lets care for our currently paved roads better	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
40	Yes!!! Guinea ridge rd please!	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
41	No, because paved roads are not adequately maintained.	1/25/2020 1:25 PM

Q25. Would you utilize a regularly scheduled mode of public transportation if available?

Answered: 173 Skipped: 9



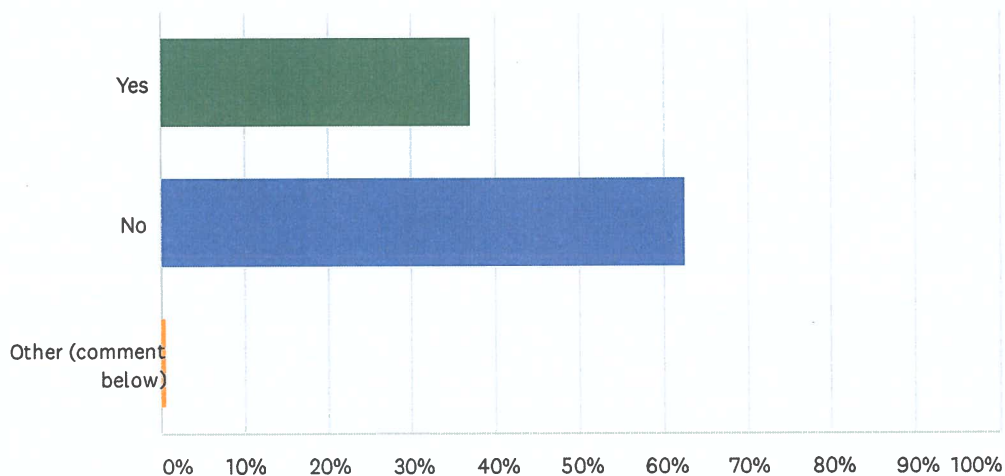
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	24.86%	43
No	75.14%	130
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		173

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

15	Probably not, too far away from things. Not high enough population to warrant frequent schedule.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
16	Kids to YMCA - Camden/Rockport area	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
17	We don't have the population density to support this. People go in all directions from here. It's not like we all commute to BIW or some other place of large employment.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
18	It turns my stomach to actually be in traffic jams on Rte 17 going to work. There are many more cars on the road in the last 20 years since I moved back here. (And of course a huge increase since I was a child here.) I would love to see some reasonable type of public transportation available. A shuttle to and from Camden-Rockport would be a start.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
19	Don't know	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
20	I am still young but maybe if I were old.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
21	You are kidding?	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
22	Not at this time, but as I age I'd want to	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
23	I am not sure how this would work I. Our community but would be interested	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
24	To where.?	1/27/2020 11:31 AM

Q26. Would you support using local tax dollars to fund a regularly scheduled public transportation service?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	36.93%	65
No	62.50%	110
Other (comment below)	0.57%	1
TOTAL		176

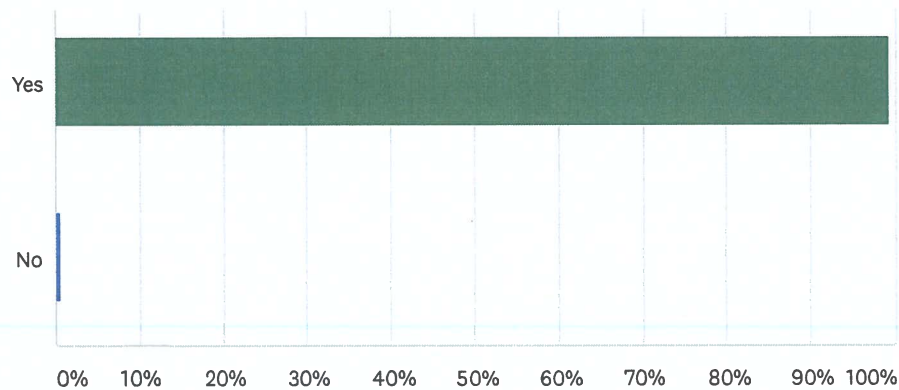
#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	possibly	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-4 years	16.11%	29
5-10 years	12.22%	22
11-30 years	45.00%	81
31-100 years	26.67%	48
TOTAL		180

Q28. Are you a year-round resident of Appleton?

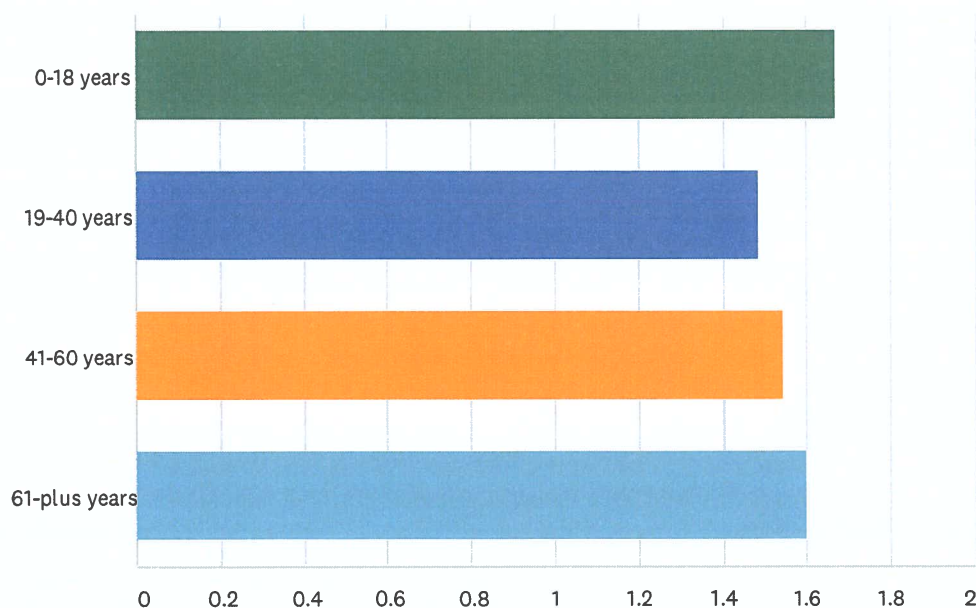
Answered: 179 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	99.44%	178
No	0.56%	1
TOTAL		179

Q29. Please indicate the number of people who live in your house by age group?

Answered: 173 Skipped: 9



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

32	2	3/1/2020 1:49 AM
33	2	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
34	1	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
35	2	2/22/2020 5:40 PM
36	2	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
37	1	2/14/2020 7:59 AM
38	3	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
39	1	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
40	3	2/9/2020 9:37 PM
41	1	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
42	2	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
43	2	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
44	2	2/5/2020 12:45 PM
45	1	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
46	4	2/3/2020 6:38 PM
47	4	2/3/2020 6:32 PM
48	0	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
49	0	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
50	1	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
51	1	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
52	1	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
53	1	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
54	1	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
55	2	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
56	1	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
57	0	1/29/2020 7:28 AM
58	1	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
59	2	1/28/2020 11:18 AM
60	2	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
61	1	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
62	2	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
63	1	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
64	0	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
65	0	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
66	3	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
67	2	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
68	1	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
69	2	1/25/2020 3:32 PM
70	3	1/25/2020 3:31 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

36	2	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
37	2	2/5/2020 12:45 PM
38	2	2/3/2020 6:38 PM
39	2	2/3/2020 6:32 PM
40	0	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
41	1	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
42	0	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
43	1	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
44	1	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
45	1	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
46	1	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
47	2	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
48	1	1/31/2020 12:09 PM
49	2	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
50	2	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
51	1	1/29/2020 7:28 AM
52	1	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
53	2	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
54	2	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
55	2	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
56	1	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
57	1	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
58	0	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
59	2	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
60	2	1/25/2020 5:25 PM
61	2	1/25/2020 3:32 PM
62	2	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
63	0	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
64	1	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
#	41-60 YEARS	DATE
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2	1	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
3	2	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
4	2	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
5	2	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
6	2	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
7	2	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
8	2	5/3/2020 3:04 PM
9	2	5/3/2020 2:59 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

49	2	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
50	2	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
51	2	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
52	2	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
53	2	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
54	2	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
55	1	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
56	1	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
57	1	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
58	1	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
59	2	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
60	1	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
61	2	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
62	2	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
63	1	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
64	2	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
65	2	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
66	2	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
67	2	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
68	2	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
69	0	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
70	2	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
71	1	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
72	2	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
73	1	1/31/2020 12:09 PM
74	2	1/29/2020 6:43 PM
75	1	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
76	2	1/29/2020 6:28 AM
77	1	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
78	1	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
79	2	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
80	2	1/28/2020 11:18 AM
81	1	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
82	2	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
83	0	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
84	2	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
85	2	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
86	0	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
87	2	1/26/2020 11:17 AM

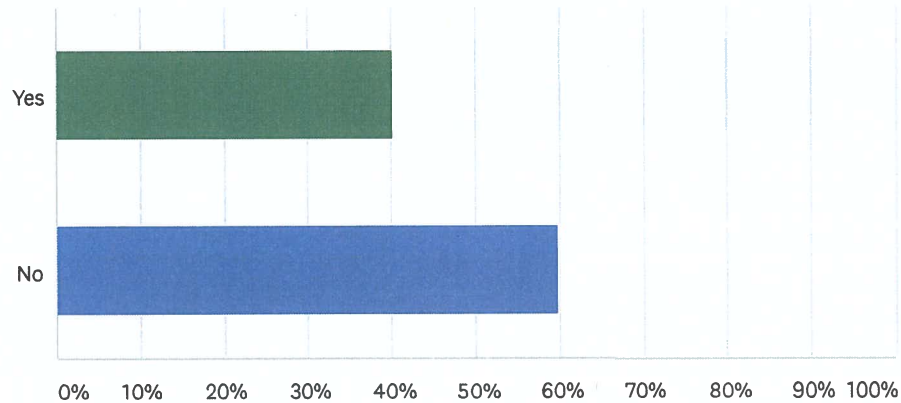
2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

32	1	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
33	2	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
34	1	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
35	1	3/17/2020 1:33 PM
36	1	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
37	1	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
38	2	3/10/2020 3:04 PM
39	2	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
40	1	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
41	1	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
42	1	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
43	2	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
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45	1	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
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48	1	2/11/2020 10:25 AM
49	1	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
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57	2	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
58	2	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
59	2	1/29/2020 12:37 PM
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61	1	1/27/2020 8:29 PM
62	0	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
63	2	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
64	2	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
65	2	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
66	1	1/25/2020 1:32 PM
67	1	1/25/2020 1:25 PM
68	2	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
69	2	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
70	2	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Q32. Does Appleton have enough housing for the elderly?

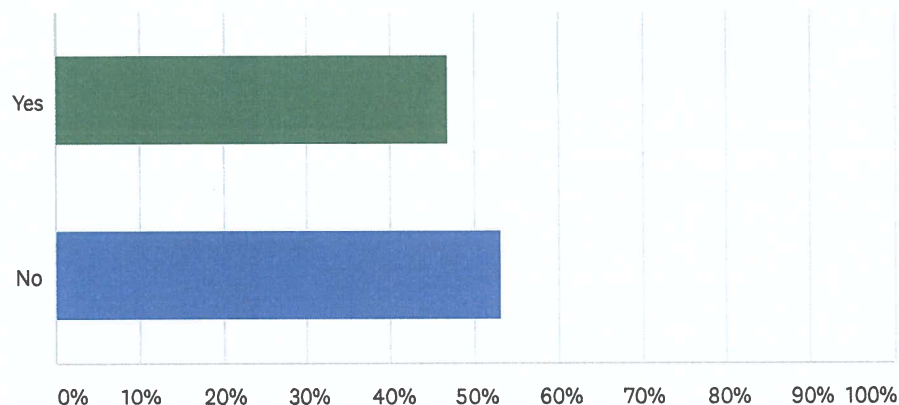
Answered: 159 Skipped: 23



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	40.25%	64
No	59.75%	95
TOTAL		159

Q33. Does Appleton have enough affordable housing?

Answered: 156 Skipped: 26



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	46.79%	73
No	53.21%	83
TOTAL		156

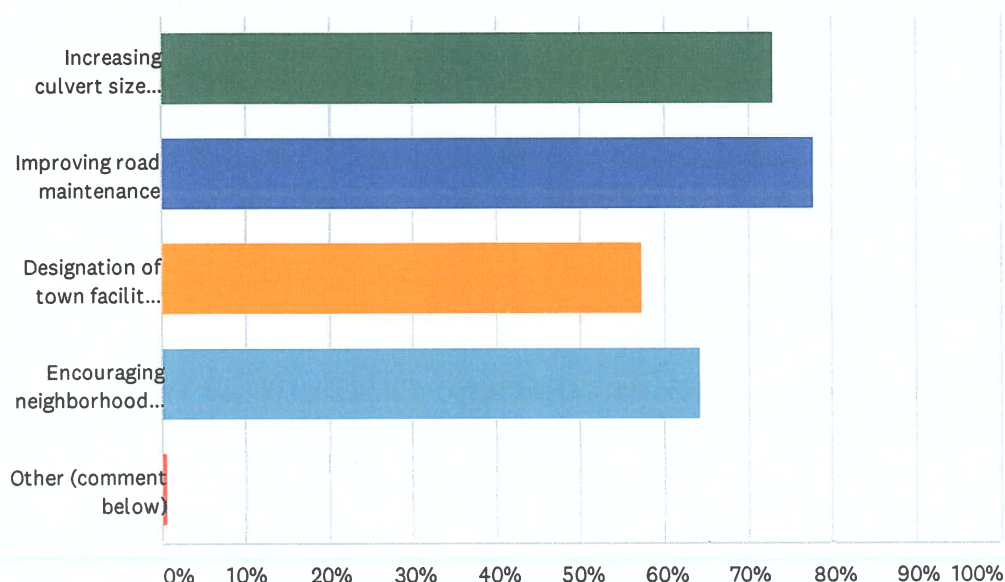
Q34. Does Appleton have enough rental apartments?

Answered: 148 Skipped: 34

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Q37. Check all ways you believe the town should prepare for and respond to severe weather events.

Answered: 171 Skipped: 11



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Increasing culvert size when replacing		73.10%	125
Improving road maintenance		77.78%	133
Designation of town facilities as emergency shelters		57.31%	98
Encouraging neighborhood communication networks		64.33%	110
Other (comment below)		0.58%	1
Total Respondents: 171			

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	It is pretty good as it is	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Add Comment Here

Answered: 13 Skipped: 169

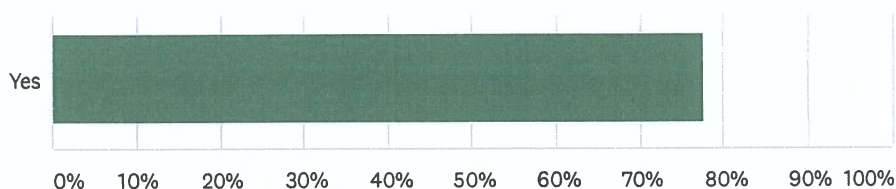
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	take int account the plants, shrubs... planted by waterways ... erosion controls	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
2	Maybe emergency water+ food supplies, medical supplies etc., in case people run out of their own back up supplies-if things ever got that bad-maybe to be portioned out to tax payer/households??	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
3	There are some places that could use larger culverts and maybe some redivitching water flow.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
4	There could be phone trees from one neighborhood to another. I am sure there are radio and computer notifications. Word of mouth seems to work very well as always.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
5	Pave dirt roads that are thruways	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
6	It's all fine.	3/6/2020 8:36 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	size considerations for wind turbines	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
2	only as a need to need basis	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
3	...but...sound (wind) should be analyzed, as it could be bothersome to neighbors rights, as well as aesthetics of anything above ground level.	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
4	Its very expensive for most but it appears if it were reasonable there may be a possibility	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
5	Yes, tax incentives should be provided.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
6	Solar	4/5/2020 7:08 AM
7	Should not discourage either, stay out of personal business.	4/4/2020 11:30 AM
8	How would the town "encourage"?	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
9	Absolutely, I would support tax incentives for wind and solar installations. INCLUDING off grid systems.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
10	Solar. Wind in certain places if it doesn't detract.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
11	Stop town telling me what i can and can't do	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
12	This is so obvious	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
13	However, it is cost prohibitive to most!	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
14	more is better... in this case.	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
15	For domestic use, or possibly microgrids, not large systems feeding the grid.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
16	Yes yes we need to look at renewable energy.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
17	I would want to see the pricing and the pros vs cons for our area	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
18	Why not?	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
19	Absolutely!	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
20	Too many birds are being killed by wind mills already, and without government subsidies NONE of them are financially responsible expenditures.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
21	There is a lot of consistent wind on all of the ridges.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
22	I would like a wind tower on my property	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
23	Wind and solar installations ARE NOT cost effective.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
24	Better yet, follow Hope's solar example.	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
25	Maybe--depends on what you mean by 'encourage'	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
26	Solar being the best energy efficient alternative.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
27	solar	1/25/2020 1:32 PM
28	Solar only	1/24/2020 11:48 AM

Q39. Should municipal buildings utilize more wind/solar energy sources?

Answered: 175 Skipped: 7

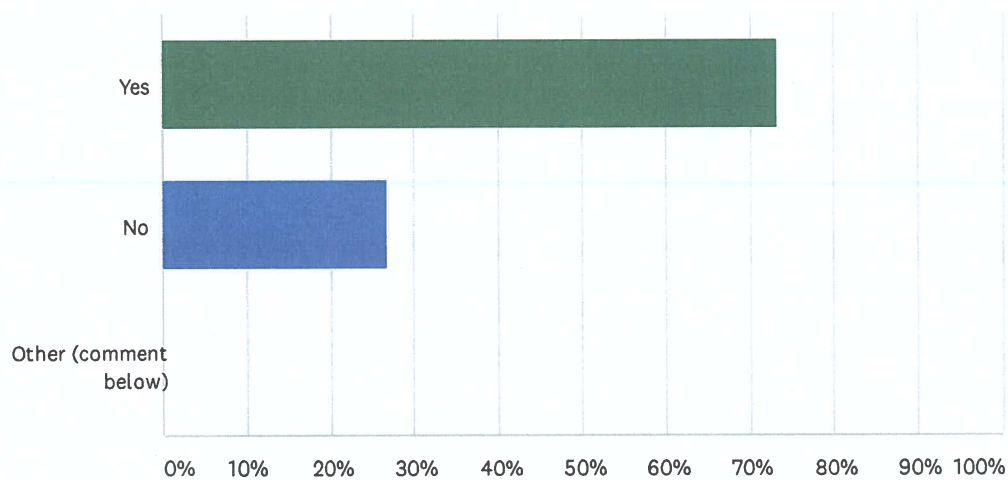


2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

17	Union Rd	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
18	Waste of money	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
19	If it is reasonably cost justified.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
20	As much as possible, please!	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
21	Only if the economics add up. ie would they produce more energy at a less expensive rate than what is currently utilized before they become obsolescent? ie would they more than pay for themselves and their installation and upkeep before they come to the end of their useful lives?	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
22	Solar	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
23	Solar only	1/24/2020 11:48 AM

Q40. Should Appleton regulate commercial communication towers?

Answered: 172 Skipped: 10

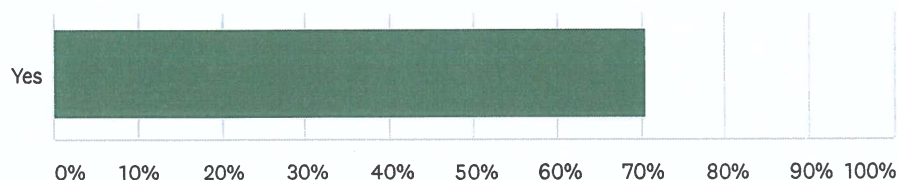


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	73.26%	126
No	26.74%	46
Other (comment below)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		172

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q41. Do you have access to high-speed internet. If not, please indicate your street name in the comment field.

Answered: 176 Skipped: 6



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Add Comment Here

Answered: 36 Skipped: 146

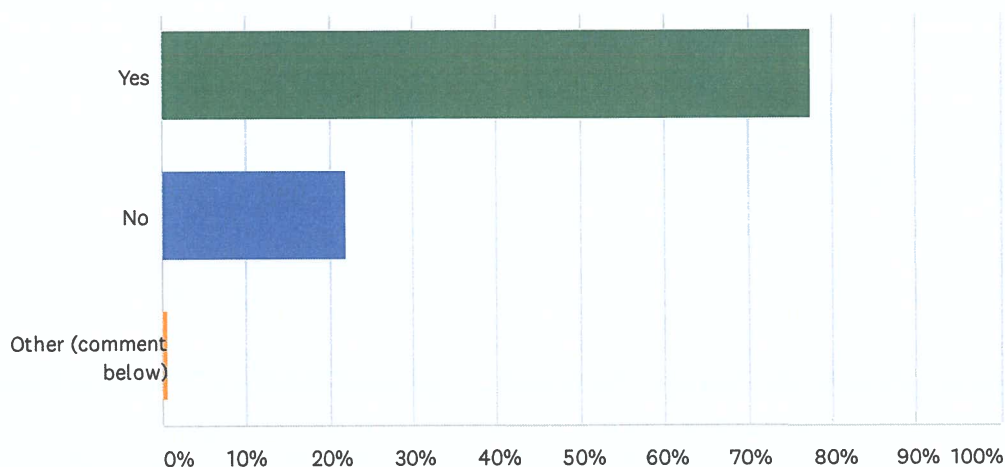
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	q41 Dsl 866 Union Rd. (DSL is not high speed in modern terms)	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
2	q41 Jones Hill Rd	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
3	q41 Peabody rd	5/3/2020 8:23 PM
4	42. "carry in, carry out" leave no trace. 41. We have been told by tidewater that if all households between Union line and school subscribed we could have it. Also "heard" that other low or sub-level access areas in town actually do have availability and can be "hooked up". If one "handles the situation" correctly re; part of north end of Appleton ridge between Pitmans Corner and Searsmont line...	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
5	279 Fishtown Rd Q41	5/3/2020 2:52 PM
6	That would be an addition to our town	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
7	Searsmont Rd q41	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
8	Searsmont Rd Q41	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
9	It depends on property location, as I said before if property could be used to create tax dollars the town should not own property.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
10	Hornbeam Lane	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
11	Sennebec	4/4/2020 9:24 PM
12	Jones Hill Road	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
13	Allow organization to do so, if willing.	4/4/2020 11:30 AM
14	40. Only if Appleton wants stricter regulation than State requires 41. DSL available but costly; higher speed supposedly available but more costly 42. Yes, dependent on public interest and cost	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
15	Taxes should be kept as low as possible. Taxpayers in Camden are stuck with the money-losing Snow Bowl which is not used by most of these tax-payers.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
16	I'm not sure of the value, unless there's a mountain to climb with a nice view that I don't know about.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
17	Could try one. Don't go overboard.	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
18	Or collaborate with local land trusts to do so.	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
19	If it can be done without raising taxes.	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
20	Volunteer only.	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
21	Gushee Road, Tidewater Telecom quoted us a price for high speed internet of installation cost of \$7500 then monthly service payment.	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
22	Nothing wrong with hiking trails. I'd hate to see ATVs dig everything up, though.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
23	not a priority, but put on the list	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
24	Comment is for Question 41 because there is no comment box there! No high speed internet on Peabody Road.	2/10/2020 1:30 PM
25	Question 41. Collinstown Road	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
26	Don't add more infrastructure that we can't take care of. We can't take care of what we have now.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
27	Trails for walking, mountain biking, cross-country Skiing, not ATV's or dirt bikes!, They rip up the ground and disturb wildlife. I'm mixed on snowmobile use- most snowmobilers have been responsible and it's seasonal. They don't generally tear up the ground, as it's snow-covered.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
28	Jones Hill Road	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
29	Hiking or bicycle trails would be great for kids and families.	2/6/2020 12:18 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	I thought most of these categories were already addressed	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
2	Eliminate the tree growth program for residential properties.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
3	Taxes are already too high, they can't go up without driving people out of town.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
4	Adopt building codes, etc. if town wants stricter guidelines than State requires.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
5	Keep the taxes low. Are you from New York City?	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
6	Don't be bossy	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
7	Keep Appleton as pretty and small as it is.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
8	tax incentives are a risky element... but we do need jobs	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
9	Creating a public works department like Washington did, to ensure more accountability in road work.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
10	Provide tax incentives to attract small local businesses that increase employment.	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
11	Water use, to work with adjacent towns to protect taking of water and reduction of our water table and ponds; light and noise pollution restrictions	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
12	Fix the poorly performing school- or close it. Too expensive for so little	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
13	The state already does all that so why duplicate services/regulations?	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
14	Stop spending	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
15	I don't think incentives will necessarily attract the businesses that the Town is coveting..... however I would not rule that out, based on a Town vote.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
16	Maintain roads	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
17	I don't know enough specifics about any of those topics to have an educated opinion. But I'm pro-conservation, pro-environmentally friendly initiatives, while also being unable to support property tax increases.	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
18	Lower property taxes	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
19	I think that town government should keep their noses OUT of as much of our lives as possible!!! And our taxes are ALREADY too high! NO MORE!!	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
20	increase renewable energy for town office ie solar or wind	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
21	haha pubic	1/25/2020 3:31 PM

Q44. Should the town facilitate water quality monitoring in our local watershed?

Answered: 168 Skipped: 14



2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	76.70%	135
No	22.73%	40
Other (comment below)	0.57%	1
TOTAL		176

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	This should be left to the landowners discretion.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM

Add Comment Here

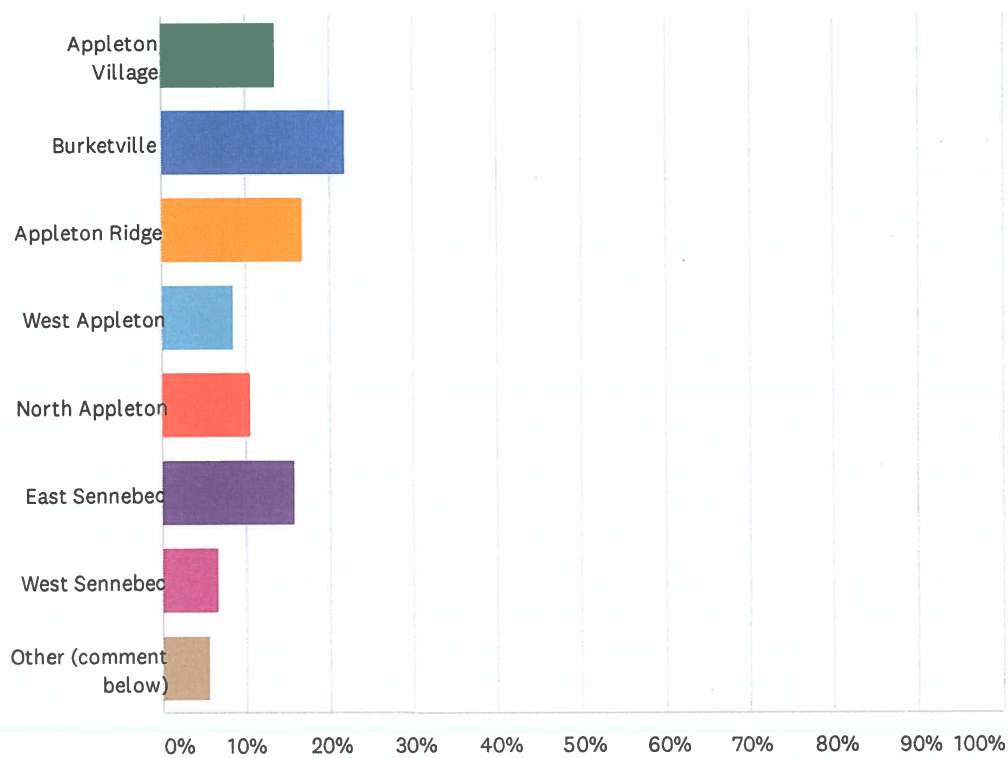
Answered: 17 Skipped: 165

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	without guidelines today we are putting all the people at risk	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
2	no spraying near homes, or gardens (crops)	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
3	Goes without explanation.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
4	The entire town should be a no-spray pesticide and herbicide zone.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
5	Possibly if necessary to protect specific public use areas.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
6	Yes, but keep it simple.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
7	Let State laws apply	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
8	The entire town should be a designate no-spray pesticide and herbicide zone.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
9	Not crazy about all the pesticides used on the ridge. . .	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
10	get rid of the ticks. spray kept them at bay when we sprayed	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
11	commercial spraying has an effect on neighbors. It should be approved and monitored.	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
12	The town should set the example for not using pesticides and herbicides on public property and rights-of-way. OK with banning household spraying. Don't support ban on spraying for agriculture and forestry.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
13	The negative impact pesticides and herbicides have on humans and the ecosystem are well established. Farmers using these products risk contaminating not just their own property but the properties of farmers around them who do not use them.	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
14	Many people are trying to farm for themselves and/or as business. The loosened federal regulations need reigning in to protect our food chain, our animals, and people.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
15	It effects every one!	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
16	The town should acknowledge the dangers these sprays pose to our environment and ban them all.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
17	My wife says NO..... Need more bats, bees, birds, fireflies, etc. Appleton should try to keep it natural everywhere possible without going totally overboard with regulations.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM

Q46. Where is your place of employment?

Answered: 169 Skipped: 13

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Appleton Village	13.56%	24
Burkettville	22.03%	39
Appleton Ridge	16.95%	30
West Appleton	8.47%	15
North Appleton	10.73%	19
East Sennebec	15.82%	28
West Sennebec	6.78%	12
Other (comment below)	5.65%	10
TOTAL		177

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Q46. Appleton, Belfast, Camden, Rockland and Union	5/3/2020 8:41 PM
2	Jones Hill Rd	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
3	Mill pond	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
4	Union Rd.	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
5	Union line	3/1/2020 1:49 AM
6	On the Appleton/Liberty line	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
7	Between the Ridge and Burkettville	2/7/2020 9:35 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

Marine related	2.94%	5
Restaurant/Lodging	1.76%	3
Sales	5.29%	9
Educator	11.76%	20
Other (comment below)	34.71%	59
TOTAL		170

#	OTHER (COMMENT BELOW)	DATE
1	Fiber Artist	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	retired logger	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
3	retired	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
4	computer repair	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
5	Construction/ Maintenance	5/3/2020 8:41 PM
6	Retired	5/3/2020 8:18 PM
7	Was clerical/governmental	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
8	other	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
9	logging	5/3/2020 1:50 PM
10	retired	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
11	retired	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
12	Legal	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
13	Medical	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
14	retired teacher and Electrical engineer	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
15	Professional service	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
16	Caterer, Bookkeeper	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
17	construction, as well as business management/administration (program won't allow more than 1 choice)	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
18	Condo Superintendent	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
19	Retired, involved in garden farming.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
20	Legal Services	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
21	Information Technology - Remote Worker	3/29/2020 4:16 PM
22	scientist	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
23	retired	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
24	Retired educator	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
25	Firefighter	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
26	Retired	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
27	Engineering	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
28	Landscaping, other	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
29	Electronic Design Engineer	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
30	Consulting	3/4/2020 10:38 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The quiet and space. The people. Our school and library.	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	open spaces, forests, rivers and ponds, safety	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
3	open space, friendly	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
4	The beauty, openness, people	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
5	Forests, woodlands...natural areas, river, beauty, rural, quiet, proximity to coast	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
6	the remoteness while being close to towns	5/10/2020 10:40 AM
7	It is quiet at night	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
8	People + Landscape	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
9	quiet	5/3/2020 9:38 PM
10	low-density of population, natural environment	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
11	quiet atmosphere	5/3/2020 8:54 PM
12	School, people, beauty	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
13	nice town	5/3/2020 8:41 PM
14	Good school, CHRHS, open spaces	5/3/2020 8:35 PM
15	Gentle people; quiet atmosphere	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
16	Beauty, quality of life, rural character, open space, views.	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
17	quiet	5/3/2020 3:15 PM
18	Being left alone	5/3/2020 3:09 PM
19	Peace and quite not a lot of activity	5/3/2020 3:04 PM
20	Quiet, Peaceful	5/3/2020 2:52 PM
21	Appleton is pretty. Appleton has been quiet/ peaceful. Appleton has been neighborly/ friendly. Family friendly	5/3/2020 2:43 PM
22	The community feel and its residents	5/3/2020 1:56 PM
23	Peace-N-Quite except logging trucks	5/3/2020 1:42 PM
24	Born here, like country living	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
25	Peace and quiet	5/3/2020 1:21 PM
26	Appleton is a village , not a center for commerce	4/15/2020 5:40 PM
27	Small town life. Small school for my kids	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
28	We have a great location for kids and animals.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
29	Natural rural setting and good community spirit.	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
30	Generally peaceful, quiet. Good neighborly qualities, helping others.	4/9/2020 10:26 AM
31	Natural beauty	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
32	The privacy, quietness and kindness of town folk	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
33	Rural, small town lifestyle	4/6/2020 11:10 AM
34	Space Natural beauty	4/5/2020 5:37 PM
35	Less people	4/5/2020 5:17 PM
36	It is lightly populated and I can do whatever I want to on my own property.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
37	Living on a wode open heritage farm property. Enjoying the wildlife and scenic views of our	4/5/2020 9:47 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

74	The quiet and beauty of our open spaces. The lack of development.	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
75	Open undeveloped areas, quiet, friendliness of people	3/4/2020 2:25 PM
76	Clean air and water, outdoor recreational opportunities, quiet and open spaces. The library is awesome and a great community meeting place and resource.	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
77	Being able to live off my land, being self-sufficient.	3/3/2020 7:19 PM
78	Always lived here. It's distant from work and stores but it is a quiet neighborhood.	3/3/2020 7:06 PM
79	It's private.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
80	rural living	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
81	peace and quiet	3/3/2020 11:35 AM
82	Great views, quiet and I can do whatever I want with my house and land.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
83	Open space, quiet and nice people	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
84	the people and the sense of community, the beauty of our natural setting	2/26/2020 10:02 PM
85	It's beautiful, quiet, friendly, nice school, easy access to Belfast, Camden, Rockland, etc.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
86	The quiet, the beauty, the ridge, the bog, the village school community, being part of the five town community and access to one of the best high schools in the state	2/25/2020 10:51 PM
87	Piece and quiet. Great neighborhood friends and get togethers! All over a great place to live	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
88	The ability to have land and farm animals.	2/22/2020 5:40 PM
89	Vistas	2/21/2020 10:54 AM
90	Remoteness, wilderness	2/16/2020 12:36 PM
91	Rural, neighbors	2/15/2020 5:10 PM
92	Great neighbors	2/14/2020 7:59 AM
93	My home and farmstead are here	2/12/2020 1:24 PM
94	Sense of community and rural character.	2/12/2020 12:07 PM
95	It's still small and rural and for the most part local and locally run so there's accountability. And my family history is here since this was Massachusetts so I'm kinda partial	2/10/2020 8:50 PM
96	It's natural beauty.	2/10/2020 5:23 PM
97	location, neighbors and friends, country setting with access to goods and services within a half hour drive.	2/10/2020 3:39 PM
98	I am off the grid and have some acreage for privacy.	2/10/2020 11:16 AM
99	It's quiet, far less trafficked than other towns in the Midcoast, less developed. I love coming home to a calm, country area.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
100	Appleton is home	2/9/2020 9:37 PM
101	Community, privacy, beautiful scenery, open spaces, K-8 school.	2/9/2020 3:49 PM
102	The views	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
103	Access to high quality natural space.	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
104	Freedom. Lots of open space.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
105	The close-knit community full of small businesses and the rural splendor	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
106	It's beautiful; I have enough land to garden; I liked the schools (AVS and CHRHS) for my daughter; there are a lot of very nice people here; I grew up here and have good memories of the outdoors, and community events from back then. The town office clerks are generally helpful and patient.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

141	Friendliness of residents, agriculture, open spaces	1/27/2020 8:29 PM
142	Rural quiet lifestyle	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
143	Rural quiet community.	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
144	Quiet safe place. The town is extremely beautiful and has a lot to offer.	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
145	It's quiet. And its land trust preserves and trails.	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
146	Quiet, simple living in a rural area.	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
147	Quiet, safe, friendly, beautiful scenery.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
148	The beauty	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
149	Quiet	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
150	Peace and quiet, and that by-and-large people mind only their own business.	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
151	Rural living, quiet, knowing our neighbors	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
152	its near everything without being by anything	1/25/2020 5:25 PM
153	I love the space and my neighbors	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
154	My familys heritage dates back to when the town was created. The forests, stream, rivers, ponds, wetlands, etc. The small town feeling and the beauty of our Village.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM
155	So peaceful and I grew up here so it's home	1/25/2020 3:32 PM
156	the rural feel and proximity to the coast	1/25/2020 3:31 PM
157	10th generation on family land. Hunting	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
158	rural scenery	1/25/2020 2:36 PM
159	My family loves Appleton. The safety and security of the community, school and the quiet town is the reason why we live here.	1/25/2020 1:35 PM
160	the wide open spaces	1/25/2020 1:25 PM
161	Rural aspect, not over developed	1/24/2020 11:48 AM
162	Friendly people	1/21/2020 1:26 PM
163	The quiet. Our whole town is a recreational area.	1/13/2020 1:15 PM
164	Community, quiet, rural character	1/13/2020 12:04 PM
165	Beautiful, rural	1/13/2020 10:03 AM

Q50. What do you like least about living in Appleton?

Answered: 153 Skipped: 29

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The uncontrolled and untenable destruction of tree and shrub growth in the clearing of roadsides. It was/is unconscionable property owners should have a say in what is cut. Several of my trees were basically destroyed. There was no announcement and no warning.	6/2/2020 6:29 AM
2	mud season	5/25/2020 11:41 AM
3	nothing really	5/25/2020 11:34 AM
4	Having to drive 30 minutes for retail needs, work, We have no convenience stores in Appleton and not enough community events.	5/25/2020 11:14 AM
5	lack fo shoulders on roads for safely walking, running, biking	5/25/2020 10:59 AM
6	High Property Taxes. Limits of local school system.	5/10/2020 7:16 PM
7	property taxes relative to services	5/10/2020 10:40 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

41	The condition of the roads	4/3/2020 6:32 PM
42	Lack of tax base and high property taxes	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
43	The drive when shopping is necessary.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
44	Divisiveness and decrease of organic connection among townspeople.	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
45	Very few restaurants or shops close by	3/29/2020 4:16 PM
46	Road conditions	3/28/2020 1:12 PM
47	not much	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
48	The potholes.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
49	nothing	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
50	Nothing	3/20/2020 2:05 PM
51	The distance required to drive to services	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
52	Poor maintenance of dirt roads	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
53	The lack of a "downtown" with restaurants, shops, pubs, to shop, visit with community	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
54	The fear of seeing it get taken over and changed like small towns in southern Maine did.	3/20/2020 11:32 AM
55	away from everything	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
56	nosey neighbors	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
57	far from services and work; far from emergency and other healthcare.	3/15/2020 6:27 PM
58	Being surrounded by enthusiastic Trump supporters.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
59	Lack of road maintenance	3/11/2020 12:15 PM
60	Bugs!	3/10/2020 3:04 PM
61	I pay an outrageous amount in taxes. So much so I'm considering selling	3/10/2020 12:49 PM
62	Road conditions and the lack of community involvement. There is no center of town. The School should be the heart of the town.	3/10/2020 12:10 PM
63	Taxes are fairly high.	3/9/2020 12:53 PM
64	High taxes, lack of road maintenance/infrastructure, lack of restaurants/local shops	3/8/2020 5:24 PM
65	The property taxes are to high.	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
66	Nothing yet.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
67	To expensive, mil rate of 22.80!! Rural town, no internet, no cable, dirt roads	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
68	Commuting	3/4/2020 8:06 PM
69	Isolation.	3/4/2020 10:38 AM
70	amount of property taxes	3/3/2020 7:19 PM
71	For farm work and stores 35 minutes	3/3/2020 7:06 PM
72	Nothing.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
73	Taxes	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
74	the high taxes!	3/3/2020 11:35 AM
75	Two things, lack of business to help with tax base and the school. The school drives me nuts. Mediocre education with a cost per student far above what private school or sending students to another district would cost. The taxpayers of Appleton cannot afford to keep the school, it should be closed.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
76	Lack of general store... and driving distance for kids	3/3/2020 7:32 AM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

109	Property taxes	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
110	I love it all.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
111	Nonexistent road maintenance.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
112	Taxes and lack of simple conveniences.	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
113	Property taxes	2/1/2020 5:42 PM
114	`	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
115	Not many stores, medical car nearby,	1/31/2020 7:32 PM
116	Nothing really.	1/31/2020 12:09 PM
117	The drive to my place of employment. The lack of "third space" gathering areas in the center of town - I really wish that Appleton Village had a cafe, general store, coffee house, playground, etc. We have had a hard time meeting people since moving here.	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
118	Taxes are extremely high	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
119	The taxes are too high. We need to attract the right type of business that will not alter our balance. A little high taxes is ok..... just need to keep it in check.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
120	West Appleton Rd	1/29/2020 12:37 PM
121	Road conditions in mud season	1/29/2020 11:52 AM
122	No community center, other than library	1/29/2020 7:28 AM
123	The speed cars are traveling on our roads	1/29/2020 6:28 AM
124	Hard to make friends, meet people if you don't have kids in the school system	1/28/2020 10:36 PM
125	Lack of access to high speed internet.	1/28/2020 5:20 PM
126	The speeders on Sennebec Road. From The Briar Patch to 131 should be 25mph. There are a lot of children on this road as well as dog walkers and runners. Also with the restaurant, library and Town Office, the speed limit really should be reduced. Cars fly down going at least 50mph.	1/28/2020 11:50 AM
127	Nothing much here but Library.	1/28/2020 11:18 AM
128	Roads in the spring	1/28/2020 10:46 AM
129	High property taxes, poor Road management	1/28/2020 10:26 AM
130	Road maintenance	1/27/2020 8:29 PM
131	Road maintenance is inadequate	1/27/2020 7:59 PM
132	A lot of new houses are going in.	1/27/2020 4:42 PM
133	The property taxes	1/27/2020 3:02 PM
134	Unsure	1/27/2020 12:51 PM
135	Road maintenance issues.	1/27/2020 11:48 AM
136	Distance from Portland, Portsmouth, Boston, etc.	1/27/2020 11:42 AM
137	Far away from grocery	1/27/2020 11:31 AM
138	Lack of high speed Internet	1/26/2020 12:01 PM
139	Poor road conditions, a town govt that looks like it is planning to become more intrusive. High tax rates.	1/26/2020 11:17 AM
140	Distance to health services, isolation for elderly	1/26/2020 9:04 AM
141	highest mil rate in the county aside from rockland	1/25/2020 5:25 PM
142	crappy internet. We live on collinstown Rd.	1/25/2020 4:45 PM
143	The taxes for our schoold are ridiculous. They raised taxes to match the other local schools but do not have the amount of children that they do. Small town feel with a big tax burden. Not so fun.	1/25/2020 4:35 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

21	Roads	5/3/2020 1:28 PM
22	Unemployment and poverty	5/3/2020 1:21 PM
23	public participation in town matters	4/15/2020 5:40 PM
24	Same as above	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
25	School and tax burden for the elderly. need to get growth moving.	4/12/2020 6:48 PM
26	High property taxes and size of school budget that the town has to bear. State needs to cover higher percentage of school costs.	4/9/2020 3:01 PM
27	Keeping taxes down while maintaining current services.	4/9/2020 10:26 AM
28	Cost of education	4/8/2020 1:51 PM
29	The cohesiveness of the town and breaking away from the good ol' boy system.	4/6/2020 2:03 PM
30	Keeping land for the next generation	4/5/2020 5:17 PM
31	Taxes and the poorly run, aging school.	4/5/2020 9:54 AM
32	Balancing appropriate tax rate to budge covered services	4/5/2020 9:47 AM
33	Taxes	4/4/2020 9:24 PM
34	High Taxes. Need to attract business with over fifty employees to conduct their operations in town	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
35	property taxes are difficult for many people. Paying for the school (a necessity) makes some angry.	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
36	school cost	4/4/2020 11:30 AM
37	Drugs	4/3/2020 7:28 PM
38	Finding the right balance to provide expected safety and services to a somewhat diverse group of residents without greatly changing what makes Appleton unique	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
39	The condition of the roads	4/3/2020 6:32 PM
40	Road maintenance and improvement	4/3/2020 5:08 PM
41	The apparent willingness (as implied by this survey) of humans to complicate life for others.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
42	Adequate funding.	4/1/2020 5:07 PM
43	Divergent views of what the town should be - a rural community with diverse activities and occupations or a retirement community.	4/1/2020 12:40 PM
44	I feel too removed from the Town and Town decisions at this point to be able to answer this question. Maybe -- Energy use and source issues. I would love to have a town incentive program to help residents have solar and/or wind installed	3/29/2020 4:16 PM
45	Taxes are too high	3/28/2020 1:12 PM
46	school funding	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
47	Future land use plans.	3/21/2020 4:21 PM
48	none	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
49	Small population which places demands on a few to serve the town well.	3/20/2020 12:20 PM
50	For me personally, poor condition of dirt roads that makes access to my property difficult in spring & winter.	3/20/2020 12:04 PM
51	Rising taxes, but moderate incomes making it hard for families to continue to live here.	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
52	Property taxes	3/17/2020 2:31 PM
53	school	3/17/2020 1:40 PM
54	Possible future public water supply sites and protection and public sanitation needs in certain areas	3/17/2020 1:33 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

89	I worry about development and subdivision of lots; I'd hate to see open field and/or forest built up. I think maintenance of the town's identity as a country setting is important; maybe acquisition and renovation of existing dilapidated properties can be encouraged as opposed to new construction.	2/10/2020 8:18 AM
90	High taxes.	2/9/2020 3:49 PM
91	Property taxes!!! It is no longer affordable to live in Appleton. Keeping the school is irresponsible fiscally.	2/9/2020 12:52 PM
92	Protection of high quality natural resources as population grows.	2/9/2020 7:10 AM
93	Determining whether we want to be a dispersed development bedroom community for surrounding towns or if we want to maintain the values, open spaces, and reasons that led most of us to choose Appleton as home. That means zoning. Sorry, but we're at that point.	2/8/2020 8:56 PM
94	Protecting the land for public and agricultural use and preventing further residential or industrial development	2/8/2020 5:30 PM
95	Being a bedroom community and dealing with fast, under regulated growth as a result. We don't have the capacity in our current small-town selectboard and volunteer committees to deal with planning and oversight of this growth, and it is going to be taken advantage of. Many of us who would like to work on town committees are just working too many jobs, to make ends meet, and no longer have the time or energy to serve on committees such as planning board, select board etc. I'd like to be involved but I work 6-7 days a week, care for an elderly parent, etc.	2/7/2020 9:35 PM
96	Property tax hikes due to expansion and global economy, proper road care infrastructure, and maintaining the way that Appleton should be - family friendly and supportive.	2/7/2020 3:28 PM
97	Attracting small businesses and bringing down our property taxes.	2/7/2020 2:58 PM
98	Town Regulations etc. need to be followed by everyone. The idea that because you're related or know someone exempts you from the rules is foolish. Just because something has always been done a certain way does not mean it should be continued if it is being done the wrong way.	2/6/2020 12:18 PM
99	the culture war	2/6/2020 11:08 AM
100	high property taxes going to a school that needs to be consolidated with neighboring school -	2/5/2020 12:21 PM
101	Unsure	2/4/2020 9:41 AM
102	Free market should decide this stuff.	2/3/2020 8:15 PM
103	At the moment the way our selectmen and women run the town. They want government control over things that don't need to be.	2/3/2020 6:38 PM
104	I'm not sure	2/3/2020 6:32 PM
105	High taxes	2/3/2020 2:26 PM
106	Property taxes	2/3/2020 11:05 AM
107	Global climate change. Possibly development for profit.	2/2/2020 9:48 PM
108	Taxes are way too high.	2/2/2020 2:54 PM
109	School tax. We should look at what is being taxed to the residents per student and consider the saving of alternative high schools.	2/2/2020 7:47 AM
110	high taxes	2/1/2020 2:51 PM
111	The need to protect farming and conservation areas and have environmental regulations,	2/1/2020 11:21 AM
112	I haven't lived here long enough to have an informed opinion on this.	1/30/2020 7:07 PM
113	Projects that are not needed spending taxpayers dollar. Like a library that is barely used.	1/30/2020 10:00 AM
114	The future. I think the makeup of the people contributing to the Planning Board's future decisions is critical to Appleton's long term future..... and I know it takes young, old, new and long term residents, rich & poor etc, etc.	1/29/2020 6:50 PM
115	High property taxes compared to what we get for our "investment."	1/29/2020 6:43 PM

2020 Appleton Comprehensive Plan Survey

3	Appreciate for your planning work	5/3/2020 9:59 PM
4	we should have mixed nonresidential development that allows small business development unique to the area.	5/3/2020 9:49 PM
5	I hope the comprehensive plan will strongly support it, encourage Appleton's rural qualities	5/3/2020 9:04 PM
6	high speed internet, cable and tv	5/3/2020 8:48 PM
7	Thank you for keeping our community up to date and still a place to call HOME.	5/3/2020 8:13 PM
8	Glad we're doing it. Hope it helps to influence/ support positive and wise changes to our community/	5/3/2020 3:55 PM
9	Appleton needs MORE business	5/3/2020 3:09 PM
10	No	4/14/2020 6:52 PM
11	Thank you for providing an opportunity to add my voice.	4/5/2020 5:37 PM
12	Do not allow any 5g towers to come to appleton	4/5/2020 5:17 PM
13	Need high speed internet on Jones Hill Road	4/4/2020 8:32 PM
14	thanks for all your hard volunteer work.	4/4/2020 5:56 PM
15	Drug abuse and climate change affect us all. Now, of course we have covid 19 to add to the list. I have no doubt that Appleton will do her part to meet the challenge.	4/3/2020 7:04 PM
16	Appleton is a free and wonderful place. Please keep it simple. Paradise is often lost, as well-meaning folks move around the planet and gradually push paradise out of the reach of the simple folk like me.	4/3/2020 4:52 PM
17	It would be nice to get more of the residents to participate in town government and town activities	3/22/2020 4:04 PM
18	none	3/20/2020 3:36 PM
19	Keep it Simple	3/20/2020 11:49 AM
20	This may seem "random," but I need to say that Becky and Pam, in the town office, perfectly represent the benefits of small-town life (as opposed to the urban nightmare). Both women are simultaneously personable and professional. Both go well above and beyond their job descriptions to help make the "town business" portion of our lives in Appleton not only bearable but enjoyable. I don't know what this town would do without them; I only know that I couldn't have managed without their help, support, and sense of humor. We, as a community, need to do EVERYTHING possible to make sure they don't leave us for something more challenging and rewarding.	3/13/2020 3:41 PM
21	No	3/6/2020 8:36 PM
22	Ham radio towers should be exempt from 32 foot height restriction as long as they comply with FCC and FAA regulations.	3/5/2020 8:54 PM
23	I believe the school system along with the town school is sucking the town dry of funds. There are more employed at the school than students enrolled.. Costly	3/5/2020 1:10 PM
24	No.	3/3/2020 6:30 PM
25	none	3/3/2020 12:37 PM
26	The town should be doing everything possible to promote renewable energy and business development. The school costs are out of control, they must be curtailed. The most effective method of doing this is to close the Appleton Village School.	3/3/2020 10:40 AM
27	Appleton should protect land along the St. George River and along Appleton Ridge from overdevelopment	3/3/2020 7:32 AM
28	No. Thank you for allowing us to comment.	2/26/2020 10:24 AM
29	no	2/23/2020 10:10 AM
30	What this info used for and by whom	2/15/2020 9:06 AM
31	I really appreciate the residents who volunteer their time for the good of the town. We're lucky to have people with high integrity and dedication. Thanks!	2/14/2020 7:59 AM